



# MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

## OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

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### INSIDE JULY'S ISSUE

#### TRIBAL - SECTION A



Inside Section A of *The Muscogee Nation News*: Koweta Indian Health Facility officially opens in Coweta p. 5; Housing policy changes help improve services p. 6; and 2006 Joint Tribes JOM Youth Conference p.8.

#### FEATURES - SECTION B



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#### FESTIVAL - SECTION C



Section C of *The Muscogee Nation News*: Photo review of the 32nd Annual Creek Festival & Rodeo..

#### THIS MONTH'S REMINDER

On Saturday, July 22, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., the Nation will be giving away mattresses and box springs from Fountainhead Lodge. The giveaway will be held at the lodge located 6 miles south of I-40 on Lake Eufaula Road. There are approx. 200 king, full and twin size sets. This will be on a first come basis and anyone with a Muscogee (Creek) citizenship card is eligible. The Nation will only load mattresses and are not responsible for securing and transporting.

## Chief and tribal officials to attend California association meeting



Principal Chief A.D. Ellis is greeted by Allen Mitchell of the California Muscogee (Creek) Association during a visit at the request of the association back in November 2004.  
*photo by Gerald Wofford*

CALIFORNIA — The 2006 "Gathering of California's Creek Indians," will be held on August 5-6, from noon to 6 p.m.

This year, for the purpose of reaching as many Mvskoke citizens as possible, the California Muscogee (Creek) Association will hold the August 5 meeting in southern California followed by the August 6 meeting in northern California.

Special guests for both events will be Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Speaker George Tiger and tribal leaders from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Also on hand will be Jason Salsman

with the *Native News Today* television program.

The August 5 event will be held at the Recreation Park's "Fire Circle" located at 401 Sheldon Street in El Segundo, CA.

For those needing lodging, the Hacienda Hotel, located at 525 N. Sepulveda Blvd. in El Segundo, CA is offering rooms at \$89 per night, with reservation code "Muscogee (Creek) Nation." Reservations can be made in El Segundo by calling (310) 615-0015.

The August 6 event will be at the Oak Grove Park "Oaks Pavilion" located at 4520 W. Eight Mile Rd. in Stockton, CA.

For those needing lodging, the Radisson Hotel Stockton located at 2323 Grand Canal Blvd. in Stockton also has an \$89 offer with reservation code "Musco" which can be reached by calling (209) 957-9090.

Both meetings are potluck picnics and those attending are asked to bring lawn chairs and a covered dish.

For more information, contact California Muscogee (Creek) Association at (310) 487-7706 or by email at: cmca@comcast.net.

## Custom made vests available for Veterans

OKMULGEE — The National Council recently approved legislation to appropriate funding to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Veterans Affairs Office for 300 custom-made service branch vests. The legislation was unanimously approved by a vote of 22 in favor and 0 against.

"Both Principal Chief Ellis and Second Chief Berryhill enthusiastically endorsed this service," said Davis. "The legislation was sponsored by Representative Anthony Notaro, and co-sponsored by Representatives Shirlene Ade, Samuel Alexander,

Roger Barnett, Pete Beaver, Larry Bible, Johnnie Greene, Duke Harjo, Bo Johnson, Keeper Johnson, Robert Jones, Tom Pickering, Cherrah Quiett, George Tiger and Thomas Yahola."

According to Veterans Affairs Director Ken Davis, the service branch vests will be constructed to individual measurements and are free of charge. The vests can be worn anywhere at anytime as desired. Davis encourages veterans to wear the vests during the annual Veterans Day Ceremony and the forthcoming grand opening of the new Veterans' building next year.

To obtain a branch service vest, veter-

ans must provide a copy of their Military Discharge and must have been discharged with one Honorable, General Under Honorable Conditions, or Under Other Than Honorable Conditions. Measurements will be taken every Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon at the Veteran's office by the seamstress.

When the vests are complete, each veteran will be contacted and may pick-up the vest at the Veteran's office. Only one vest per veteran will be made.

For those veterans unable to come to the Veteran's office for measurements, their measurements can be mailed in. Below is a guide on how to measure for the vest: shoulder tip to shoulder tip, collarbone front down to middle of belt loop, nap of the back of neck to the middle of belt loop, measure around waist over the belly button, and chest measurement.

For more information or to send measurements, mail to: Ken Davis, VASO, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, P.O. Box 580, Hwy 75 & Loop 56, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Davis can also be reached at (918) 732-7739 or e-mail: kendavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.



## Citizen participation encouraged in Constitutional Convention hearings

OKMULGEE — On Feb. 18, 2006, citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation cast ballots in the Special Referendum Election to amend the Nation's Constitution with 76.5% of voters favoring the change. As a result, the newly created Constitutional Convention Commission of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will conduct public hearings throughout the Nation. The Commission will accept citizen's views on constitutional amendments, revisions, alterations, or additions.

All eligible Muscogee (Creek) voters have the opportunity to recommend changes to the Constitution. The Commission strongly encourages citizen participation in such a historic event.

According to NCA 05-106 of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation (resulting from the 2006 vote), Section 2D states, "The Constitutional Commission shall organize and promulgate rules and regulations in February and proceed to carry out the process of a Constitutional Convention that will ensure citizen input and participation throughout the Nation."

Therefore, to receive public opinion on the Muscogee (Creek) Constitutional, the Commission will meet with Creek communities until February 2007.

Section E of the law further states, "Constitutional Convention amendments, alterations, revisions, or new articles proposed by such Convention shall be submitted to eligible voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at a special election, called by the Principal Chief within one hundred eighty (180) days, and approved by a majority of the eligible vot-

ers voting thereon before the same shall be effective."

From the information gathered through public input, the Commission will present proposed constitutional changes to citizens, and amendments will be decided by way of a special election or public vote in a general election within those 180 days.

All proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing on an amendment form, signed and notarized. During the public meetings, Commissioners will provide copies of the Constitution and amendment forms as well as notaries and translators.

The Commission consists of one person from each of the three branches of Government, and one person from each district selected by the caucus of National Council Representatives. Serving on the Constitutional Convention Commission are Chair Bill Fife; Vice-Chairs Roger Barnett, Patrick Moore, and Thomas Yahola; and Commissioners Ronald Cleghorn, Jeff Fife, Eddie LaGrone, Mike Flud, Bob Davis, George Tiger, and Tom Pickering. The Constitutional Convention Clerk is Sue Ann Sparks.

The Commission will schedule visits to Creek Community meetings to formally announce their intentions to accept input from all tribal citizens concerning the Constitution.

The schedule of hearings will be announced in future issues of the *Muscogee Nation News*, the Creek Nation radio program on Okmulgee's KOKLAM-1240 station every Wednesday from 9:30-10 A.M., as well as the *Native News Today* television program on COX cable every Saturday at 11 a.m.



Office of the Principal Chief

by Chief A.D. Ellis

Hello Friends and Tribal Citizens,  
Again we are in the midst of a long hot summer with air conditioning problems, grand kids visiting and we're all getting older, not old. I hope everyone enjoyed the 2006 Creek Festival and Indian Rodeo. Again, I will say that without the tribal employee's volunteering throughout this long hot weekend, this would not have been possible. Many thanks to those who volunteered and worked beyond the normal call to cover for those who did not volunteer.



I just returned last week from Washington D.C. after testifying before senator, John McCain's Indian Affairs Committee. The subject was Indian Housing

programs and the success of this HUD program with different tribal nations. The other tribal leader was chairman of the Flathead Tribe of Montana. Our housing division is improving each month with the much needed changes that effect our individual citizens. I realize that many cannot see these changes because of their individual needs but these changes must benefit our entire nation.  
I believe that the administration and national council will continue to be faced with decision to be made that will be both popular and unpopular with many tribal citizens. Speaking for myself, I will do what is best for the entire nation and face the opposition knowing that we cannot please everyone.  
The first week in August is our travel week to be in California. I understand that Friday and Saturday is planned for Los Angeles and Sunday we'll be in Stockton, CA. I encourage all Creeks and those who are eligible for creek tribal citizenship to plan on being at one of the meetings. Sev-

eral different departments will be in attendance including the Citizenship Board and Election Board.  
The California Creek's are a very active group of people and they don't mind telling you how they feel. About the only benefit they receive is the ability to vote and they are serious about that.  
I also urge all citizens of their nation to voice your opinion on the operation of your tribal government. Regardless of who the elected official or officials are, let it be known that you are satisfied or not satisfied.  
Today I vetoed two pieces of legislation passed by the national council. A funding of \$22,500.00 to Jubilee Christian Center for paving the parking lot. I consider Pastor Litsey a friend but I am first obligated to our traditional Indian churches who still park in the grass and mud during services.  
Until their needs are met I cannot approve outside churches to be funded and neglect our own. The other was

\$52,178.00 for two new handicap vans for Dewar and Twin Hills community. Three months ago the council funded \$50,000.00 and bought Dewar and Twin Hills new vans. Until the first new vans are returned or sold I cannot approve two more for each community. Two vans for each community is not practical or allowed.  
I ask the National Council to do their homework before duplicate funding is passed for any purpose.  
Today I have selected September 16th for the next summit meeting for all creek churches to be held in the Mound building. All will be notified by my office.  
*MVTO!*

*Quote of the Month*  
  
"An apology is a good way to have the last word."

Second Opinion

by Second Chief Alfred Berryhill

I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday weekend. Forgive me for not being able to meet the deadline for the past Second Opinion. We had a great Festival and as usual, we had to put up with some rain.  
Speaking of a Festival, our people in the past gathered to resolve some questions between the Town's. This question was resolved by playing a ball game that was called "the Little Brother of War". Today, we are familiar with the game of Stickball, but there was another game that has been forgotten and the historians call it the "Chunky" game. I would rather pronounce this as "chunge" or "my hand" or "hand". This game was played on a huge raised field that was between the Temple Mound and the Council Mound. The field was elevated about two feet.



the other Ytonaslaq, a person of banked fires. And in his understanding both [are] the names of demons (I feel that this is a misunderstanding),

which they have held as such, especially for Ytonanslalaq.  
The latter had an orphaned granddaughter named nico taijulo, woman of the sun. The leading men, who are those who are in charge of the place, the aldermen, as we would say, sent her out for water every day. She became pregnant in this employment and gave birth to a son and hid him among some bushes, where the panther, the bear, and the jay found him. And they brought him to itonanslac, his great-grandfather. And they told him how his granddaughter, Nicotaijulo, had given birth to that child. He then ordered that they should not say anything to anybody or reveal that his granddaughter had given birth. He was given the name Chita. They do not know what it means, nor have I been able to discover it. He was reared to the age of twelve with this name, and [then] it was changed and he was given another, which was Oclafi, Baron of water. This is their way of speaking. He was reared with that name until the twentieth year. And [then] it was taken from him and he was given another, which was eslafiayupi. Neither did they know what this one meant. (They say they are ignorant of it.) The which young man excelled everyone in courage and in his skill with the bow and arrow and in the game of quicio [chunky], which all these

nations play, which is [played] with two long poles about three yardsticks in length and a flat and round stone.  
Ochuna Nicoguadca harbored suspicions that young man was the son of Taijulo because his shamans had told him, or, prognosticated, as we would say, that the son to which Nico taijulo gave birth was destined to kill him. And in order [to learn] if perchance this was so, he tried to see if he might kill him. And he set the following there traps for him, so that he might perish in one.  
Take note that the Ytonanslaq had commanded his great-grandson that concerning everything that they ordered him to do or that happened, that it was important for him that he should let him know about it before he obeyed it. And, accordingly, [when] he was ordered first that he should go to a certain place where there was a large and very deep sinkhole, that he should obtain flints there for arrowheads, and that they should not be from any other place, the young man went at once and told his great-grandfather of what they were ordering him [to do]. And he said to him, son, this spring is very deep. You cannot obtain the flints from it without risking your life. He gave him some beads [made] of shell and told him to give those beads to a little bird that would bet there diving and ask for the flints from it. And so he went, gave it the beads and asked it for them [the flints]. And it gave them [to him], and he brought them to Ochuna Nicoguadca. He ordered him secondly to go to a certain thicket where he would find a canebrake of bamboo, and that he should cut canes there, and bring them for arrows. The young man went and told his great-grandfather what they had commanded of him. The old man said him, Son, there are many poisonous snakes in that canebrake, you would be running great danger. What you can do is form hoops from the grapevines and carry them along. And when the snake comes, throw the hoop where it is crawling. Then it will chase the hoop and you [can] rush up and cut the canes. With which he did just that. He went, cut his canes and he brought them. Thirdly and lastly, he ordered him to go to a certain place where he would find a nest of eagles in a tree, that he should go and kill the parents and bring back the fledglings. The youth went and informed then old man and he gave him the advice that follows. And it was that he should bring some gourds with him that he might put on his hands and on his head, and, that when he should see the eagle about to bite him, he should let go with the afore-said lariat. And that is what he did. He went and killed the eagles and brought the young ones and presented them to Ochuna Nicoguadea. On seeing that he could not kill him, he arranged that they

should play the ball game. This how it had its beginning. And it is in this fashion.  
They send a courier, challenging the place with whom they are going to play, citing the day, and with how many players, let's say forty or fifty more or less, in accord with the people to be had. It has to be [played] at midday or at two in the afternoon, and, in the summer. And in winter they do not play. It is to eleven strikes with the ball that they fire at the pole. And it must be with the foot. And as I understand it, one holds the ball with the hand, lets it fall, and lifting it up with the foot and giving it a kick upwards, one fires the said ball, which will be the size of a musket-ball, [or] a little larger. If it remains on the pole it is worth two. They all crowd together like a clump of pine-cones, naked as when their mother bore them, except for a deerskin breechclout that covers their private parts, and, [with] their hair braided. And a leading man throws the ball in the midst of all of them, who are erect and with their hands raised. It falls into the hand of someone. And they fall upon one another at full tilt. And the last to arrive climb up over their bodies, using them as stairs. And, to enter, others [step on] their faces, heads, or bellies, as they encounter them, taking no notice [of them]  
**Continued on Page A3**

LETTERSTOTHEEDITOR:

Dear Chief Ellis,  
I'm George Windes, enrolled member and active on the board of the CMCA. I'd like to express my views on the Cleghorn 'Letter to the Editor' seen recently in the Muscogee Times, our official paper. It was revealing to me that Cleghorn's mean-spirited letter was found next to the fine article written by Chief Berryhill regarding the Rev. John McIntosh. I'm related to John by marriage & honor his memory. He was a lifetime of service and love for Muscogee & other Native peoples. His dedication to others, especially children & elders, is well documented. He was also a pillar to his faith.  
Eli Grayson, though young, exhibits many of those same good qualities. He is generous in his gifts of time and assets. He loves the youth & elders. He works to help the citizens enjoy all things Creek, be it music, language, or history (my favorite). Ditto also for genealogy research & tribal

enrollment issues.  
Most importantly, he keeps us informed on happenings at headquarters. We need to know so that we can participate, vote intellectually, be informed of opportunities; so we feel part of our beautiful community. In the words of the poet, "No man is an island, no man stands alone...each man a part of the main...each man's death diminishes me, because I'm involved in mankind." I won't go into the issues that Cleghorn harped upon. It's not worth my time. Suffice to say that Grayson is probably the best thing to ever happen to CMCA. He praises others & serves unselfishly.  
He speaks highly of you always and of 99% of our tribal leadership. We need a 100 young men like Grayson. What could you as Chief, do with men like Eli scattered everywhere in theMCN?  
  
R e s p e c t f u l l y ,  
George Windes  
Yorba Linda, California

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month. The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.  
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TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, CALL (918) 732-7637 or send e-mail to: [wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov](mailto:wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov).



## From the desk of the Speaker:

Hensci!

The 32nd Annual Muscogee Creek Nation Festival is over and once again it was a success. Although it rained, it didn't dampen the spirits of those who enjoyed the festivities. Many of our tribal members returned for the Festival to visit their families and friends. In behalf of the National Council, I want to thank those who served on the Festival Committee for their hard work.



The National Council passed a resolution recently to support the efforts of the Native Vote United project. The purpose is to encourage all Native people to register and vote during the upcoming elections. It's been proven the Native vote can make a difference throughout the country. In Oklahoma the upcoming election can be one of the most important elections in terms of issues of interest for Indian Communities and Tribal governments. The primary election in Oklahoma is scheduled for July 25. The next Tribal Summit will be hosted by the Muscogee Creek Nation in the Mound auditorium and is scheduled for July 18. The morning agenda will be for the purpose of meeting candidates for State offices. The resolution passed by our National Council is being used as a blueprint for other tribes in the state to adopt. Rita Williams of the National Council Staff who has served as the lead in this endeavor for the council. Williams has been appointed by the National Congress of American Indians to serve as their lead person for Oklahoma.

As of this writing of the Speaker's column the National Council is holding meetings to discuss a proposed negotiated tobacco compact by Chief Ellis and Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry. Meetings are part of the ongoing negotiations between the two governmental entities. The Tribe's last tobacco compact expired in February of 2005. The Cherokee Nation has been involved with arbitrations while the Osage Nation is in litigation with the state of Oklahoma regarding their respective compacts. Emergency rules passed by the Oklahoma Tax Commission that seems to cloud the issue even more are not being enforced at the present time or until a compact is agreed to.

Since the Tobacco Compact controversy has been a strong topic of discussion politically in Oklahoma it is ironic that it has served as a rallying point for tribes. The Tribal Summits began with a great concern on this issue. However, other issues such as water rights, education, gaming, and health have been discussed at these meeting and once again Tribes are reawakening to unite to have one voice on all issues.

Until next time, Mvto.

## Continued from page A2

and aiming kicks without any concern whether it is to the face or to the body, while in other places still others pull at arms or legs with no concern as to whether they may be dislocated or not, while still others have their mouths filled with dirt. When this pileup begins to become untangled, they are accustomed to find four or five stretched out like tuna; over there are others gasping for breath, because, inasmuch as some are wont to swallow the ball, they are made to vomit it up by squeezing their windpipe or by kicks to the stomach. Over there lie others with an arm or leg broken.

In this exercise, the fashion in which I have described it is but a sketch of what took place, because their faces are like a living fire from this exertion and from the midday sun. What damage must not be done to these bodies [from this]! And they resuscitate them by dint of a bucket of water. What kind of a remedy is this, when they have their pores open in this fashion? How can these wretches stay alive thus? Accordingly, they are destroying themselves and this nation is being extinguished. And all this is only a sketch!

## TO BE CONTINUED

## BUSH ADMINISTRATION PUSHES CLASS II GAMING PROPOSAL

Submitted By Rita Williams, Legislative Liason Affairs/Writer  
Reprint from Indianz.com

The Bush Administration submitted its controversial Indian gaming proposal to top members of Congress earlier this month in hopes of landing a sponsor.

On June 7, the Department of Justice sent letters to House Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-Illinois) and Vice President Dick Cheney, who serves as president of the Senate. William E. Moschella, the assistant attorney general in charge of legislative affairs, asked the leaders for a chance to present the proposal.

"I am transmitting here with a legislative proposal relating to the use of gambling devices as technologic aids in Class II gaming in Indian Country," the identical letters stated.

To the administration, the bill clarifies a key issue: What is the difference between an electronic bingo machine and a slot machine? Officials say the line has been blurred in a way that threatens the future of the \$20 billion Indian gaming industry.

But to tribes, the legislation represents an attack on their economic gains. They argue it will stifle technological innovations that have

## Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE MAY 1, 2006, EMERGENCY SESSION.

## MAY 1, EMERGENCY SESSION

ABSENT WAS: REPRESENTATIVE **LARRY BIBLE** ON LEAVE FOR 6-8 WEEKS; **LENA WIND**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; **CHERRAH RIDGE QUIETT**, TULSA DISTRICT; AND **PAULA WILLITS**, TULSA DISTRICT;

SPEAKER **GEORGE TIGER**, CREEK DISTRICT, CONDUCTED THE MEETING AND DID NOT VOTE.

## IN ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (21-0-0) **NCA 06-084**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DIVISION OF HEALTH CONTRACT PROGRAM TO FUND PAYMENT FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES CHARGES FOR MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZENS - SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING** (\$500,000.00);

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (21-0-0) **NCA 06-088**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT FOR SUMMER 2006 TRIBAL GRANTS PROGRAM AND SPRING 2006 INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING** (\$300,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **TOM PICKERING** EXCUSED. THEREFORE, TWENTY-ONE PRESENT AND FIVE ABSENT.

- APPROVED (20-0-0) **TR 06-055**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DIVISION OF HOUSING TO UNDERTAKE, MANAGE AND CONTROL THE PROGRAMS OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CREEK NATION OF OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**

- APPROVED (20-0-0) **NCA 06-070**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 35, CHAPTER 6, "SCHOOL CLOTHING PROGRAM," SUB-CHAPTER 1. "INCOME SPECIFIC ELIGIBILITY" SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **S. CALDWELL**; **L. WIND** (\$1,279,486.00)

- APPROVED (20-0-0) **NCA 06-092**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING TITLE 24 AND REPEALING CERTAIN SECTIONS TO ELIMINATE THE HOUSING AUTHORITY SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**

- APPROVED (12-8-0) **NCA 06-094**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO PURCHASE APOTHECARY JARS WITH THE SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND STATE SENATE AND THE GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** (\$1,406.54)

VOTING NO WERE: **EDDIE LAGRONE**, MUSKOGEE DISTRICT; **TRAVIS SCOTT**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; **BILL FIFE**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; **ROBERT JONES**, OKMULGEE; **KEEPER JOHNSON**, OKMULGEE; **JEFF FIFE**, OKMULGEE; **RON CLEGHORN**, TULSA; AND **SAM ALEXANDER**, TULSA.

## MAY 20, REGULAR SESSION

ABSENT WERE: **TOM PICKERING**, MCINTOSH; AND **LARRY BIBLE**, TULSA; SPEAKER **GEORGE TIGER**, CREEK DISTRICT, CONDUCTED THE MEETING AND DID NOT VOTE.

## IN ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) **TR 06-038**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE OKMULGEE INDIAN SENIOR

CITIZENS GROUP TO USE THE GREAT SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION FOR THE PRODUCTION AND SALE OF FLAGS AND TRIBAL TAGS SPONSOR: **BO JOHNSON**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **P. BEAVER**; **E. LAGRONE**

- APPROVED TO RETURN TO COMMITTEE (23-0-0) **TR 06-045**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SUPPORTING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH **NAOMI CONNELL** FOR THE NATION'S POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF THE ALLOTMENT OF **EMMA JOHNSON HATCHER** FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER**;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) **TR 06-051**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION COMMITTING TEN ACRES OF TRIBAL LAND FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING A TRIBAL COMMUNITY HIGHER EDUCATION FACILITY SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **R. BERRYHILL**; **J. GREENE**; **D. HARJO**; **J. JENNINGS**; **T. YAHOLA**; **R. JONES**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **TR 06-054**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING THE EMERGENCY REPAIR OF PRIVATELY OWNED HOMES POLICY OF THE HOUSING DIVISION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AS ADOPTED BY TR 05-033 AND AMENDED BY TR 05-169 SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **TR 06-056**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION PROVIDING FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A TRIBAL COMMUNITY HIGHER EDUCATION BUILDING THROUGH HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT TO BE CONSTRUCTED ON TRIBAL LANDS SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **TR 06-057**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION IMPLEMENTING THE ANIMAL PURCHASING PROGRAM FOR THE 4-H PROGRAM SPONSOR: **SYLVANNA CALDWELL**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **TR 06-058**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SUPPORTING THE ENDORSEMENT OF AN "INDIAN EDUCATION ACT" RELATED TO THE EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT OF NATIVE AMERICAN CHILDREN IN OKLAHOMA SCHOOLS SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **TR 06-059**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REVISING THE DEFINITION OF INCOME FOR ALL HOUSING PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**;

- POSTPONED (23-0-0) **TR 06-060**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF TWO GAMING OPERATION AUTHORITY BOARD MEMBERS AT THE EXPIRATION OF THEIR TERMS OF OFFICE SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**; CO-SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**;

- APPROVED (22-1-0) **TR 06-061**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF ROBERT HUFFT TO SERVE ON THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD SPONSOR: **SAMUEL ALEXANDER**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **B. FIFE**; **R. CLEGHORN**; **E. LAGRONE**; **C. QUIETT**; **R. BARNETT**;

VOTING NO WERE: **RICHARD BERRYHILL**, WAGONER DISTRICT;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **TR 06-062**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE RE-NOMINATION OF **JOANN F. DEERE** TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

CITIZENSHIP BOARD SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) **TR 06-063**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A TEMPORARY OPERATING PERMIT WITH THE OKMULGEE COUNTY 4-H PROGRAM FOR THE OPERATION OF A TEMPORARY FIREWORKS SALES FACILITY ON TRIBAL TRUST LAND SPONSOR: **ROBERT JONES**; CO-SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **TR 06-064**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE PROVISION OF HOUSING SERVICES TO NON-LOW-INCOME NATIVE AMERICANS TO THE EXTENT ALLOWABLE BY NAHASDA TITLE II, SECTION 202 SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **TR 06-066**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE GREAT SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ON THE OKLAHOMA TRIBAL VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION COUNCIL BROCHURE SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) **TR 06-067**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NATION, M & M ENERGY, LLC AND SEMGROUP, LP SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) **TR 06-070**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN ENGAGEMENT LETTER WITH FITCH RATINGS TO PROVIDE A PUBLIC CREDIT RATING SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**; CO-SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO**

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **TR 06-071**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE TWO AGREEMENTS WITH B & B FIREWORKS FOR THE OPERATION OF A TEMPORARY FIREWORKS SALES FACILITY ON TRIBAL LAND SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**; CO-SPONSOR: **ROBERT JONES**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **TR 06-072**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE TWO AGREEMENTS WITH B & B FIREWORKS FOR THE OPERATION OF A TEMPORARY FIREWORKS SALES FACILITY ON TRIBAL LAND SPONSOR: **JEFF FIFE**; CO-SPONSOR **ROBERT JONES**;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-027**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE SAPULPA INDIAN COMMUNITY FOR THE PURCHASE OF A VAN WITH HANDICAP ACCESSIBILITY SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** (\$37,000.00);

- APPROVED (23-0-0-) **NCA 06-065**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO SPONSOR THE CONFERENCE ON REDUCING HEALTH DISPARITIES IN AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES BY PREVENTING DIABETES THROUGHOUT THE LIFE CYCLE SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER** (\$40,589.20);

- APPROVED (18-5-0) **NCA 06-078**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

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commented, "This will be the most radical setback in 24 years, more than IGRA itself, this will change the way we do class II gaming, we are looking to Tribal leaders for their authority. Gaming is not granted by the United States Congress, its an inherent sovereignty right." Brian Foster, OIGA, panelist added that tribal leaders need to stand up for their sovereignty.

## NATIVE VOTE UNITED CAMPAIGN:

by Rita Williams, Legislative Liason Affairs/Writer

Tribes in Oklahoma are beginning to unite together in the upcoming elections. They are looking at candidates who will be supportive of Native American issues and most importantly tribal sovereignty. The lack of true and meaningful consultations with our state and national legislatures have not been happening with tribes. The political arena at these levels have not been closely watched by our tribes. We are now finding ourselves some allies and becoming educated as to what avenues we can become strong in and one

is, our vote. But, we have to become aggressive and active and that is what one little community is doing. Hanna Indian Community will be hosting a candidates forum for all those running for public office in McIntosh District, on Friday July 21, 2006. They are inviting all Tribal Elected Officials, citizens, and interested parties to attend. They are serving potluck at 6:30 a.m. and at 7 p.m the forum will convene. The Native Vote United will also be present.



For more information, you may call Stella Simpson 918-657-2687 or Susie Harjo 918-657-2641. Remember to vote on Tuesday, July 25<sup>th</sup> 2006.

## Native Vote United Meets with tribes:

Tuesday evening, July 27-2006 the Native Vote United meet with tribes from the Ponca Nation, Cherokee Nation, Cheyenne Arapaho Nation, Volunteers, and Oklahoma Democratic Network to come up with some strategy on the grassroots campaign.

For more information on the Native Vote United contact: Rita Williams @ 918-758-1410  
photos by Rita Williams



## Veteran Affairs Service Office taking care of business by taking care of Veterans

OKMULGEE — The Veteran Affairs Service Office, led by Ken Davis, has achieved a triple crown in its service to Muscogee veterans. In January of 2005 Davis predicted that the triple crown would be achieved by September of 2007, but it was achieved on June 14, 2006.

The first crown is that 100 veterans have been assisted in receiving what they are due by the Veteran Affairs Service Office. The second crown is that over 1.2 million dollars (\$1,201,632) has been paid to veterans by December of 06. The third



crown is that in calendar year 2006 the residuals will see over one million dollars paid out (\$1,059,632). All of the funds received by the veterans are tax free. The ages of the veterans range from 22 years old to 96.

So far Davis has filed 174 claims with the V.A. of which 120 have been awarded, 11 were denied, and 43 are still pending. Of the 174 claims, 43% have been on behalf of combat veterans.

Davis said that he's not done yet though, "Our veterans that have been helped are only the tip of the iceberg." When asked if the V.A. worked well with him Davis had this to say about the V.A. "The V.A. has been fair on rating our vets. It's the veteran having to prove to the V.A., not the V.A. trying to disprove the veteran."

## More American Indians opening businesses

By Ja'Rena Lunsford  
Originally printed in the Oklahoman.

Oklahoma has the second-largest number of American Indian-owned businesses in the nation, according to a report released Tuesday (June 20) by the U.S. Census Bureau.

The report, based on data collected in 2002, stated that nearly 6 percent of Oklahoma's 291,611 businesses are owned by American Indians, proof to many business leaders that there is a shift in how American Indians are doing business.

"No longer are Indian people just known for beadwork and things like that," said Bill Johnnie, 2006 State Board President of the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma. "We are very much a product of this century."

Valerie Strang, survey statistician for the U.S. Census Bureau's Economic Census branch, said the category that includes American Indian and Alaska Native-owned businesses generated \$26.9 billion nationwide. The top five states were California, Oklahoma, Texas, New York and Florida and the top industries were construction and retail trade.

Phil G. Busey, chairman and president of The Busey Group of Cos. in Oklahoma City, said government contracting is helping minority-owned businesses grow.

Maj. Melinda Morgan, spokeswoman for the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center at Tinker Air Force Base, said 1 percent of Tinker's contracts go to American Indian businesses.

"I think there is finally becoming an awareness of the importance of individually-owned Indian businesses," Busey said.

## Casino industry growth benefits communities

Originally printed by Muskogee Phoenix and written by Liz McMahan.

Oklahoma's casinos are big business and getting bigger.

Besides raking in profits for the tribes

that operate them, casinos are creating hundreds of new jobs for Oklahomans.

The Cherokee Nation has grown from 500 casino employees in 2004 to about 2,800 today, said Mike Miller, spokesman for Cherokee Nation Enterprises. The annual payroll has grown from \$39.5 million to \$69 million.

The Creek Nation had about 1,300 employees last year, said Nelson Johnson, Muscogee (Creek) Nation gaming commissioner. Their payroll was about \$32 million.

The Creek Nation casino in Muskogee has about 265 of those workers, with an annual payroll of \$6 million, said Farrell Kaaihue, manager of the facility.

"Probably the most successful thing we have done is we have reduced our unemployment rate somewhat, particularly in our urban areas like Tulsa and Muskogee," Johnson said.

Both the Creek Nation and Cherokee Nation give preference to tribal members in particular and also to Native Americans.

But in the smaller communities, there are a good number of non-Indians now employed in the casinos, Johnson said.

## Casinos benefit workers, communities

Besides the wages, employees receive good fringe benefits, Miller said. For example, most waitresses in the public sector don't have health insurance. Those working full-time for the casinos receive good wages and have very affordable health insurance, as do all tribal employees.

Health insurance is a fringe benefit workers in the smaller communities have never had, Johnson said.

"It's quite a substantial jump in quality of life for those people," he said.

The communities with casinos also have benefited, he said.

"The restaurants, hotels, gas stations — this is a windfall for them," he said.

Besides the money from employee paychecks, businesses in the community also benefit.

"Most of our purchases are from local businesses," Johnson said.

Both tribes are putting money into growth of their casinos, but they also are investing money back into tribal governments.

"It goes into education, housing and health care gets a lot. It goes into a lot of governmental programs and services, roads included," Miller said.

Johnson said money from the Creek operations goes into the government and also helps in social services.

"We just opened a new \$17 million health clinic in Coweta. A substantial amount of that funding came from our gaming revenues," he said.

The tribe also has purchased vehicles for its communities and to serve tribal members, he said.

"It (gaming) has improved the quality of life for a lot of our senior citizens," he said.

## Casino industry continues to grow

Growth in the casino business isn't slowing down any.

The Cherokees have casinos at Catoosa, West Siloam Springs, Fort Gibson, Tahlequah, Roland and Claremore. They will open a casino in Sallisaw at noon Wednesday (June 21). They also own three hotels, two golf courses, three service stations and several gift shops.

The Creek Nation has casinos at Muskogee, Eufaula, Checotah, Okmulgee, Bristow, Okemah, Duck Creek and Tulsa.

And neither is ready to stop growing.

The Muskogee casino hopefully will be expanded next year to make room for more tables and more machines. Eventually, there could be a hotel built at the Muskogee site, Kaaihue said.

The Creek Nation is building an entirely new casino building just south of its present Tulsa casino. Within two years, they hope to have it and a hotel completed.

The hotel operation at the Catoosa casino has been extremely successful, Miller said. It is packed with guests seven days per week.

"The demand is exceeding our supply," he said.

## Casino guests come from near, and far

During the week, most of the guests come in with conventions and other group meetings. On weekends, the guests are just visitors.

"More than half of the people who stay in our hotel that we know where they are from, are from out of state," Miller said.

There's a need for more rooms and larger conference rooms so that larger conferences and conventions can be booked for Catoosa, he said.

"We own a lot of land where we are. We have a lot of parking lots and some fields. We haven't nailed down yet how we are going to meet that demand," he said.

A decision on expansion should come within the next year, he said.

## Tulsa Casino Promotions:

### The \$250,000 American Dream

Tuesdays at 6 p.m., 14 Additional Keys Awarded July 25

The time you have all been waiting for is here. The American Dream will finally become a reality to one person on July 25. A brand new house in south Tulsa, a 2006 Hummer H3, and \$10,000 in cash could be yours just by stopping by Guest Services and registering for the American Dream. Someone will win this, and there's no reason it can't be you. Every Tuesday through July 18, two winners will be awarded \$200 every hour from 6 pm to 9 pm. At 10 pm one person will win \$400 and a key that could open The American Dream home. A key will also be given out by each of the following radio stations: KRMG, KWEN, KRAV, and KJSR, so listen for your chance to win. On July 25, the day of the finale, half-hour cash drawings will occur from 10 am until 7:30, just prior to the American Dream Giveaway. At 8 pm on that night 14 additional keys will be awarded that could potentially open the door to The American Dream. Following the American Dream Giveaway 10 drawings will be held for 10 consolation prizes provided by Cox Radio.

### Take it to the Lake

Wednesdays starting at 6 pm now through August 2, 5 Additional Keys Awarded.

Guys, finish up your summer a winner in a brand new 2006 Tahoe Q4 Sport Boat! You can do this by entering "Take it to the Lake" and earning a chance to win this great boat which will be given away on August 2. All you need to do is stop by Guest Services on Wednesday nights starting at 6 pm and swipe your Players Club card. Half hour cash drawings will begin at 7 pm and will continue until 10 pm. At 10 pm two guys will be selected as that night's key winners and will both take home \$500 and a key that could possibly start the 2006 Tahoe Q4 Sport Boat. You can also earn extra entries by winning a jackpot of \$200 or more on any VGT machine. Also on August 2, we will qualify five additional guys starting at 6 pm for keys that could start the Tahoe Q4 Sport Boat!

### Ladies, It's All About You

We've sent you to Miami and LA, and now it's your turn to escape to Broadway and Times Square in New York! This is your last chance to get away from everything and relax during "Ladies, It's All About You." One lucky lady and a friend will win \$5,000 to shop, an amazing trip to a spa, and a stay at a great hotel. All you have to do is sign up at Guest Services each Monday starting at 6 pm for half-hour cash drawings beginning at 7 pm. The drawings will continue each half hour until 10 pm when two ladies will win \$500 and a certificate to return for the final grand prize drawing on July 31 for a chance to win the trip to New York. Extra entries may also be earned by winning a jackpot of \$10 or more on any World Touch game. Don't forget, we're giving away five additional grand prize certificates starting at 6 pm on July 31 for a chance at the New York getaway!

### Seniors Wake up and Win

Seniors, rise and shine at Creek Nation Casino Mondays and Tuesdays in July. From 7 am to 11 am, the first 500 seniors will receive \$5 match play on any Rocket machine and enjoy complimentary coffee and

donuts. What better way to start the day than with Creek Nation Casino's Wake Up and Win promotion?

### Mid Summer Night's Dream

Having trouble sleeping? Or are you a night owl? Head down to Creek Nation Casino for our late night promotion! Swipe in at Guest Services starting at 11 pm every Sunday through Wednesday for \$150 drawings from 12 am – 3 am and a final drawing at 4 am for \$400! (Sunday – Wednesday Through July 31, 11 pm – 4 am)

## Table Games Promotions

### For the Love of Blackjack

The blackjack pit is the only place to play for \$250 cash drawings every half hour Monday through Wednesday from noon to 6 pm. If that's not enough, on Sundays we bump the drawings up to \$500 with three winners every hour from noon to 6 pm! All you have to do to earn your shot at winning some of this cash is to gain an entry into the drawings by receiving a suited blackjack of hearts or buying in \$100 at any table in the pit. You may gain entries 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Every time a suited blackjack of hearts is awarded, that player receives a \$10 bonus and everyone else at the table earns our famous Envy Bonus of \$5.

### TEXAS HOLD'EM PROGRESSIVE BAD BEAT JACKPOTS

Three separate jackpots will be paid on aces full of jacks losing to a better hand.

Watch the jackpots grow daily. Jackpot currently at \$50,000! Several people have already walked away with thousands, come win your share.

*Winning hand may collect one jackpot per win*

### TEXAS HOLD'EM PROGRESSIVE HIGH HANDS

The following High Hands will increase by \$100 each day: Four of a Kind, Straight Flush, and Royal Flush. (24 hours a day, 7 days a week)

### Poker Tournaments

Ladies Night  
No Limit Texas Hold'em  
Mondays at 7 pm - \$30 Buy in

Men's Night  
The Big One  
No Limit Texas Hold'em  
Wednesdays at 7 pm- \$115 Buy in

The Big Bounty  
Poker Tournament  
Thursdays & Sundays at 7 pm - \$115 Buy in Daily River Showdown  
No Limit Texas Hold'em  
Every day at 9 am.- \$30 Buy in

## Request for Muscogee Business information

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department is accepting information on Muscogee owned and / or operated businesses and Muscogee business owners. If you, or someone you know, owns or operates a business and is a Muscogee Citizen write in and let us know about them and help us let everyone else know about them as well. It doesn't matter if their business is a multinational corporation or doing bead work and selling it out of their house, all Muscogee owned or operated businesses are applicable.

This is a service of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department, there is no cost to our citizens for this.

Information on businesses will be ran as space permits and on a first come first served basis. Pictures will be allowed if space permits.

Please send information to: Muscogee Creek Nation Communications Department, ICO: Joshua Slane, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Ok. 74447 or e-mail the stories to [jslane@muscogeenation-nsn.gov](mailto:jslane@muscogeenation-nsn.gov). If you would like more information about what you can submit, please call Josh at 918- 732 - 7638. Mvto.



HEALTH HIGHLIGHTS

MCN Division of Health Administration

*The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health offers a wide range of medical and lifestyle advancements within the boundaries of the Creek Nation for its citizens. The Division of Health can offer extensive and thorough care to each citizen through the practice of qualified medical professionals and caring staff.*

Tobacco Prevention Program  
Program Director,  
Cynthia Coachman  
Grand Street, Okmulgee  
918-756-6231

Diabetes Prevention Program  
Johnnie Brassuell  
Diabetes Coordinator,  
1801 East 4th, Okmulgee  
918-756-3334 extension 248

Behavioral Health Services  
Clinical Director,  
Dailey Tearl LMFT, LADC  
100 West 7th Street, Okmulgee  
918-758-1910

Contract Health Services  
Laura Mackey, Program Manager,  
206 South Grand Street, Okmulgee  
918-758-2710

Okemah Hospital  
309 North 14th Street, Okemah  
918-623-1424

Women Infant & Children (WIC)  
Misty Rains RD/LD, WIC Director,  
Hwy 75 and Loop 56 , Okmulgee  
918-758-2722

Vocational Rehabilitation Program  
Mary Lee, Program Coordinator,  
213 N. 2nd, Okemah  
918-623-1197

CHR Program  
Cyndi Gilks, Manager  
700 N. Mission, Okmulgee  
918-756-1941

Elderly Nutrition Program  
Steve Wilson, Manager  
1801 East 4th  
Lackey Hall, Okmulgee  
918-758-2727

Care Giver Program  
Teresa Jennings  
1801 East 4th, Okmulgee  
918-758-2727

Eufaula Health Center  
800 Forest Ave, Eufaula  
918-689-2547

Okmulgee Health Center  
1313 East 20th, Okmulgee  
918-758-1926

Sapulpa Health Center  
1125 E. Cleveland, Sapulpa  
918-224-9310

Koweta Health Facility  
31870 East Hwy 51, Coweta  
918-279-3200

Contract Health Services provides Vision Program to citizens

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Contract Health Office is accepting requests for vision applications. For Native Americans ages 50 and over, and based on income guidelines. Applicant must reside within the Muscogee (Creek) boundaries.

The Vision Program is a Tribal Program that provides assistance to Creek Citizens in obtaining vision examination and eyeglasses. This program is designed to assist the Creek Citizens and is not intended to cover the total cost of vision assistance and related expenses.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Vision Program Guidelines: Tribal Citizenship card is required, applicant may receive assistance every two years, applicant must use contracted Optometrist or any Tribal / Indian Health Facility Optometrist, each individual is eligible to receive up to \$180. The program will pay \$55 towards an eye exam and \$125 toward lenses and frames. Any amount exceeding \$180 will be the responsibility of the applicant.

For more information call Flora Jackson at (918)758-2710 Ext. 225 .

West Nile Virus precautions in Creek communities

Health Release regarding West Nile Virus (WNV) from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System (MCNHS).

The risk of contracting or being exposed to the WNV is extremely rare, but is a public health concern in the event it does occur. This is an informative article on the WNV, to answer some common questions and to increase the awareness and understanding of our citizens on this virus.

What Is West Nile Virus? West Nile virus (WNV) is a potentially serious illness. Experts believe WNV is established as a seasonal epidemic in North America that flares up in the summer and continues into the fall. This fact sheet contains important information that can help you recognize and prevent West Nile virus.

What Are the Symptoms of WNV? **Serious Symptoms in a Few People.** About one in 150 people infected with WNV will develop severe illness. The severe symptoms can include high fever, headache, neck stiffness, stupor, disorientation, coma, tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness, vision loss, numbness and paralysis. These symptoms may last several weeks, and neurological effects may be permanent. **Milder Symptoms in Some People.** Up to 20 percent of the people who become infected will display symptoms which can include fever, headache, and body aches, nausea, vomiting, and sometimes swollen lymph glands or a skin rash on the chest, stomach and back. Symptoms can last for as short as a few days, though even healthy people have been sick for several weeks. **No Symptoms in Most People.** Approximately 80 percent of people (about four out of five) who are infected with WNV will not show any symptoms at all, but there is no way

to know in advance if you will develop an illness or not.

How Does West Nile Virus Spread? **Infected Mosquitoes.** Most often, WNV is spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes become infected when they feed on infected birds. Infected mosquitoes can then spread WNV to humans and other animals when they bite. Transfusions,



Transplants, and Mother-to-Child. In a very small number of cases, WNV also has been spread through blood transfusions, organ transplants, breastfeeding and even during pregnancy from mother to baby. Not through touching. WNV is not spread through casual contact such as touching or kissing a person with the virus.

How Soon Do Infected People Get Sick? People typically develop symptoms between three and 14 days after they are bitten by the infected mosquito.

What should I do if I think I have WNV? Milder WNV illness improves on its own, and people do not necessarily need to seek medical attention for this infection though they may choose to do so. If you develop symptoms of severe WNV illness, such as unusually severe headaches or confusion, seek medical attention immediately. Severe WNV illness usually requires hospitalization. Pregnant women and nursing mothers are encouraged to talk to their doctor if they develop symptoms that could be WNV.

Koweta Indian Health Facility officially opens in Coweta

COWETA — The new Koweta Indian Health Facility held its Grand Opening ceremonies on June 15, 2006 with over 300 people partaking in the festivities.

The actual process for obtaining the Facility started in September of 2002. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation competed nationally with other tribes to joint venture with Indian Health Service for a new health facility to be located in the under-served area of Coweta, Oklahoma. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation was one of two tribes nationwide to successfully obtain this joint venture with Indian Health Service. This joint venture required the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to borrow up to 18 million dollars to build the facility. The Legislative and Executive Branches along with the Division of Health Administration worked hand in hand to make this project possible. The actual groundbreaking and construction of the new facility began in December of 2004, with a certificate of substantial completion issued on May 1, 2006. With its first patient being seen on June 26, this state of the art 60,000 square foot facility is now open and seeing patients on a daily basis. The clinic offers the following services for all eligible Native Americans: Family Medical, Pediatrics, Dental, Optometry, and Radiology, with Mammogra-

phy & Ultra Sound, Pharmacy, Diabetes Program, Behavioral Health,



Physical Therapy, Audiology, WIC and CHR services. While not available just yet, the clinic hopes to offer CT services in the near future. It is estimated that the clinic will see and average of 30,000 patients per year.

Creek Nation Casino supports responsible gaming

Creek Nation Casino proudly offers their guests a fun, friendly entertainment experience. All guests are encouraged to enjoy the exciting casino action while staying within their limits. The casino recognizes that problem gambling is a serious issue affecting millions of adults each year, and we are committed to promoting and supporting responsible gaming behavior in our casinos through ongoing education and awareness among our guests and employees. If you are concerned that you may have a gambling problem, please call (800)-522-4700.

There is no way to predict who will develop a gambling problem. Adults of any age, gender, race, religion, or status may suffer from this often hidden illness. The good news is that once identified, the problem can be successfully treated. The National Council on Problem Gambling lists the following as signs of problem gambling behavior: Gambling longer than planned; Of-

ten gambling until last dollar is gone; Losing sleep over thoughts of gambling; Using income or savings to gamble while letting bills go unpaid; Making repeated, unsuccessful attempts to stop gambling; Breaking the law or considered breaking the law to finance gambling; Borrowing money to finance gambling; Feeling depressed or suicidal because of gambling losses; Being remorseful after gambling; Gambling to get money to meet financial obligations.

How Is WNV Infection Treated? There is no specific treatment for WNV infection. In cases with milder symptoms, people experience symptoms such as fever and aches that pass on their own. In more severe cases, people usually need to go to the hospital where they can receive supportive treatment. What Can I Do to Prevent WNV? The easiest and best way to avoid WNV is to prevent mosquito bites.

·When you are outdoors, use insect repellents containing an EPA-registered insect repellent. Follow the directions on the package.

·Many mosquitoes are most active at dusk and dawn. Be sure to use insect repellent and wear long sleeves and pants at these times or consider staying indoors during these hours.

·Make sure you have good screens on your windows and doors to keep mosquitoes out.

·Get rid of mosquito breeding sites by emptying standing water from flower pots, buckets and barrels. Change the water in pet dishes and replace the water in bird baths weekly. Drill holes in tire swings so water drains out. Keep children's wading pools empty and on their sides when they aren't being used.

What Else Should I Know? **If you find a dead bird:** Don't handle the body with your bare hands. Contact your local health department for instructions on reporting and disposing of the body. They may tell you to dispose of the bird after they log your report.

In conclusion, the risk of contracting or being exposed to the WNV is extremely rare, but is a public health concern in the event it does occur. If you have any other questions or concerns, more information can be found at WWW.CDC.GOV., or your local health agencies. The MCNHS would like to say *MVTO*, for allowing us to share this information with you.

Currently the clinic has 95 employees and will have around 120 employees when fully staffed. Current facility hours are 7:30am to 5:00pm. The Health System Administrator for the Facility is Bert Robison and the Clinical Director is Dr. Lawrence Vark DO and the Dental Officer is Dr. Tom Hix. The completion of this magnificent facility is a testament to progress within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. With the services offered, this facility will help to enhance the quality of health care for all Tribal Citizens within this region. For more information call (918)279-3200.

If you are concerned that you or someone you know may have a gambling problem, please call the confidential 24 hour toll free Problem Gambling Helpline. Experienced counselors are on hand to answer your questions and provide information on available treatment and support resources in your area. [www.ncpgambling.org](http://www.ncpgambling.org).



Housing policy changes help improve services

With the passage of the Native American Housing and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) tribal governments are taking a more active role in the planning of housing programs and how their program policies are implemented. Policy changes are put in place to help better serve our tribal citizens and hopefully speed up services to those who are eligible and in need.

A key policy change affecting the Muscogee (Creek) housing includes the modification of the applicant preference ranking system for all housing programs. Families will be selected for services using the following criteria with preference given according to the following list.

(1) Eligible Creek citizens who are involuntarily displaced by government agencies or natural disasters, including fires.

(2) 4/4 degree of blood Creek large families (2 or more in household), the elderly, disabled handicapped.

(3) Large Creek families (2 or more in household), the elderly, disabled or handicapped 1/2 degree or more.

(4) Large Creek families (2 or more in household), the elderly, disabled or handicapped less than 1/2 degree.

(5) Single 4/4 degree Creek Citizen

(6) Single less than 4/4 degree Creek Citizen

(7) Other Indian Tribes

The above criteria will afford eligible Creek Citizens who are involuntarily displaced first preference with large 4/4 degree of blood Creek families secondary preference and large families ½ degree or more third preference in the selection process.

Other program policy changes include:

(1) Families who carry insurance on their privately owned home and are qualified for the Rehabilitation of Privately Owned Homes Program may be assisted with the cost of a deductible in the event of an insurance claim.

(2) Emergency repair of privately owned homes may now allow assistance for the installation of all utility services for families who have purchased a home (i.e. electric, plumbing related, gas/propane, water and solid waste disposal).

(3) The Homeownership program will now allow any elderly living outside the Muscogee (Creek) boundary to apply to the program. If the applicant is already a private homeowner they will be required to dispose of their home and be willing to receive a home within the boundaries of the Creek Nation.

ALTERNATIVE HOUSING PROGRAM  
HELPING THOSE WITH THE GREATEST NEED

In the past, many of our elderly Creek citizens applied to the Rehabilitation of Privately Owned Homes program only to find that due to the poor condition of their home repairs would not be feasible.

Previously Housing’s only options to the elderly homeowners were to apply for the Lease with Option to Purchase Program (Homeownership) or the Rental Program. Making payments on a home or renting was not an option for most elderly who many are on fixed incomes.

For this reason the Alternative Housing Program was created. The program offers Elderly Creek Citizens over the age of 62 and who have qualified for the Rehabilitation of Privately Owned Homes Program a replacement home as a grant which means the cost of the house does not have to be repaid.

The program has completed 13 houses and plans 18 more by the end of the year.



Loreen Sumka, front, (LtoR) Rev. Sidney Lee, Ron Qualls, Housing Director, Chief A.D. Ellis



(LtoR) Tom Pickering, McIntosh Dist. Council Rep., Delilah Charles, David Proctor, Const. Services Mgr., Anthony Notaro, McIntosh Dist. Council Rep.



(L to R) Eddie LaGrone, Muskogee Dist. Council Rep., George Redeagle



(L to R) Johnnie Greene, Wagoner Dist. Council Rep, Mr. & Mrs. Solomon Wilson, Jr.

*“I would like to thank the chief and everyone involved with helping me recieve this house.”*  
Loreen Sumka, Alternative Housing Recipient

*“This is a dream come true. I just can’t thank everyone enough.”*  
Delilah Charles, Alternative Housing Recipient

*“I just want to thank everyone.”*  
George Redeagle, Alternative Housing Recipient

*“These are the citizens we urgently need to help. They are elderly, on fixed income, often handicapped, and still they don’t ask for much. If the tribe can make their lives a little better that’s what we should be about.”*  
Chief A.D. Ellis

*“The alternative housing program is an invovative idea towards helping our elderly.”*  
Eddie Lagrone, Muskogee District Representative

*“I feel very gratified by the program when I see our Creek Elderly finally provided ad-equate housing. Because of the full-blood preference requirement most of the recipients thus far are elderly full-bloods who desperately need better housing”*  
David Proctor, Manager of Construction Services

**Note: All recipents had applied and were approved for the Rehabilitation of Privately Owned Homes Program and were over the age of 62.**

COMMUNITY SHIELD  
PROTECTION PROGRAM



Offering protection for Creek Citizens against property damage caused by fire, storm, or other natural disasters.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division/Authority is now offering property coverage for Creek Citizens who are renting or own their own homes.

The program offers coverage for both homeowners and renters. Coverages includes home protection for homeowners, personal property, personal liability, and emergency living expenses.

To be eligible for the program applicants must be enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Citizens, reside within the state of Oklahoma and use the dwelling to be covered as their principle place of residence.

The Housing Division and Amerind Risk Management retain the right to inspect the covered property, and require loss prevention efforts on part of the participants and does not assume responsibility for maintenance of the covered property.

The participant will be solely responsible for filing all claims directly to Amerind with claim payments based on replacement cost up to the coverage limits.

*For more information about the program contact*  
**Lenora McPerryman**  
**Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Housing**  
**(918) 756-8504 or 800-259-5050 Ext. 4117**



Many Native American families find it difficult becoming a homeowner due to the high out of pocket cost of obtaining a mortgage loan.

The Mortgage Assistance Program is designed to help our Tribal Citizens realize their dream of becoming a homeowner by providing financial assistance needed to acquire a mortgage loan to eligible applicants.

For More Information Contact:  
**MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**  
**P.O. Box 297**  
**Okmulgee, Ok 74447**  
**1-800-259-5050**  
**918-759-4137**

The Mortgage Assistance Program is a program of the  
**MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DIVISION OF HOUSING**

- To be eligible for the program, clients must meet the following requirements established by The Mortgage Assistance Program and by the Native American Housing Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).
- Be a first time home buyer.
  - Live within the state of Oklahoma.
  - Not be an existing or former Mutual Help Participant of NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with option to Purchase regardless of a Housing Service Area.
  - Have an annual family income which does not exceed 80% of the national Median income published by HUD.
  - Be 18 years or older.
  - Provide all requested information, Citizenship card for preference purposes, Social Security cards, and employment verification for each working family member on the required forms.
  - Sign all required forms including the consent for disclosure of information.
  - Be able to meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.
  - Preference given to Creek Citizens.
- Eligible clients may qualify for up to \$25,000.



Head Start accepting applications  
OKMULGEE — Creek Nation Head Start is currently accepting applications for enrollment. You will need the following items turned in with your application: state certified birth certificate, immunization record, social security card, verification of income, and, if applicable, CDIB (Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood) card. Your child will also need a dental and a physical completed. All races and ethnicities may apply.

Creek Nation Head Start offers full day services for children 3-5 years of age. Children must turn age 3 by September 1st. Other services provided include: meals, health and social services, speech testing, individualized teaching services for children with special needs, and parent involvement. Transportation services may be available to you.

You may visit us at 302 B. Street in Checotah to get an application. For more information call 918-473-0605.

Scott reunion  
MCALESTER - The descendants of Samuel Scott and Nancy McIntosh Scott or Daniel Scott, John Scott, Benny Scott, Hepsey Scott Lewis are going to have the 16th Annual Scott Family Reunion on June 17, 2006at J.I. Stipe Recreation Center located at 801 North 9th McAlester, Oklahoma from 11:30 a.m. The men's horseshoe tournament will be continued this year. The theme is Mardi Gras. It will be greatly appreciated if each family would bring a covered dish, salad, fruit or desert for the noon meal. The meats and drinks will be supplied. For more information call: Barbara Lara Robertson (817) 633-7432 or (817) 373-3675 or e-mail [b2robinson1@AOL.com](mailto:b2robinson1@AOL.com).

Honoring veterans  
SEQUOYAH - The Sequoyah Alumni Association is going to honor all of our veterans that were killed in Action. The Sequoyah Alumni Association would like to do this in August during the dedication of the facility. Contact Donnie Bevenue at (918) 224-8479 for more information.

Update adresses  
Continued from June's issue are the following TribalRegistered voters are urged to contact the Creek Nation Election Board to update theiraddress. Call 1-800-482-1979 or 918- 732-7684, 7685 and 7631.  
Burgess, Raymond L.  
Burgess, Robert C.  
Burgess III, Senora K.  
Burkhart (Robison), Lea  
Burley (Byard), Lisa  
Burns, Amelia J.  
Burris, Curtis W.  
Burson, Connie  
Brutnett, James L.  
Burton, Jimmy L.  
Bush, Marilyn G  
Bushouse, Pamela J.  
Bushyhead, Kathleen  
Butler, Randall G  
Byrd, Belinda I.  
Byrd, Gnetta F.  
Byrd (Watson), Wanda  
Cable (Vail), Jo Ann  
Cadion, Jacqueline E.  
Caesar, Alphonso  
Cain (Plum), Tracia A.  
Caldwell, Jerra G  
Calvert, Michael T.  
Camp, Bonita J.  
Campbell, Clay I.  
Campbell, Ian M.  
Campbell, Shelley D.  
Canard, Curtis L.  
Canard, Roger V.  
Carden, Monte D.  
Carey, John C.  
Carman SR., Lonnie C.  
Carpenter, Jeanie  
Carpenter, Michael  
Carpenter, Robert D.  
Carr, George W.  
Carr, Lenayle D.  
Carroll, Stacie P.  
Carson, Dana W.  
Carter, Delores  
Carter, Mable I.  
Carter, Michelle R.  
Cater, Richard L.  
Cater, William B.  
Case, Anthony W.  
Case, Maurice W.  
Casey, Leonard W.  
Casey, Pat R.  
Casey, Patricia A.  
Castle, Betty J.  
Castro, Larry D.  
Catland, Barbara J.  
Caudill, Peter I.  
Caywood, Melissa A.  
Chalakee JR., Billy W.  
Chalakee, Theron L.

Chalakee, Tommy L.  
Chandler, Jimmy L.  
Chandler, Linda P.  
Chaney, Christopher R.  
Chaney, Jackson S.  
Chase, Walton C.  
Chastain, Jason A.  
Chastain, Michelle N.  
Checotah, Benjamin G  
Checotah, Orvilon  
Checotah JR., Roman  
Cheote, Johnnie L.  
Checote, Sky C.  
Cheek, Dawn A.  
Childers, Daniel C.  
Childers, Mark S.  
Childress (Tiger), Lucy  
Chissoe, Michele M.  
Christian, Etta M.  
Christiansen, Michael R.  
Christiansen, Patrick L.  
Christy (Bethal), Linda  
Chumpco, Sammy D.  
Clark, Bessie A.  
Clark, Billye J.  
Clark, Penny J.  
Clark (Hardin), Roxanne  
Clark, Sheril A.  
Clark (Fisher), Tamra  
Clary (Berryhill), Ruth  
Clayton, Kevin E.  
Clayton, Ronald J.  
Cleary (Logan), Regina  
Clements (Brown), Lois  
Clemmer, Elizabeth J.  
Clester, Linda L.  
Clifton, Debra K.  
Clifton, Dianna L.  
Cline, Shirley A.  
Clinton, Gary G  
Cloud (Holuby), Leah  
Cloud, Mark D.  
Cloud, Mark S.  
Cloud, Rodney E.  
Clubb, Alice A.  
Coachman, Agnes  
Coachman, Brenda S.  
Coachman, Charles M.  
Coachman, David J.  
Coachman, James P.  
Coachman, Joseph D.  
Coachman, Willa M.  
Cobb, Youvon L.  
Cocharan, Brenda K.  
Cody (Rose), Jenny  
Coffin (Brooks), Lolita  
Coffman, Karen F.  
Coker, Katrina M.  
Coker JR., Thomas e.  
Colbert, Charles R.  
Cole, Aaron L.  
Cole, Bobbie L.  
Cole, Jack L.  
Cole JR., James M.  
Cole, Susan A.  
Cole, Theresa L.  
Coleman, Leona T.  
Coleman, Steve M.  
Combs, Beulah  
Combs, Harold B.  
Combs, Marcus L.  
Combs, Melvin L.  
Combs, Robert K.  
Condreay, Maude E.  
Conley, Oscar L.  
Conn, Minnie R.  
Conrad, Millicent W.  
Cook, Jacqueline  
Cook, Joyce M.  
Cook Scot D.  
Coon JR., Arthur  
Cooper, Cranford W.  
Cooper, David L.  
Cooper, John T.  
Cooper, Lyndel L.  
Cooper, Mary N.  
Coots, Mark A.  
Copeland, Lisa L.  
Copland, Michael R.  
Cornfeld, Thelma  
Cottrell, Cindy L.  
Couch, Jack C.  
Coulter, Kathy D.  
Coursey, Dorless J.  
Coursey, Richard J.  
Courtemanche, Deborah  
Cowan, Alice M.  
Cowles, Agnes L.  
Cowles, Jimmy W.  
Cox, Jerry E.  
Cox, Laura S.  
Cox, Winnie J.  
Coyle, Bobby L.  
Coyle, Elsie  
Coyle, Jamie J.  
Coyle, Randy A.  
Crain, Ambia L.  
Crawford, Debra A.  
Crawford, Linda C.  
Crawford, Scotty S.  
Cricklin, David R.

Critzer, Mikela K.  
Cron, Teresa M.  
Crook, Danetta A.  
Crosby, Shonna E.  
Crounse, Jacqueline  
Crowell, Marquette M.  
Crowell, Thomas J.  
Cruse, Carrie E.  
Cully, Anna L.  
Cunningham, Celease  
Curry, Jerome H.  
Curry, Ostennia M.  
Cutburth, Emma L.  
Daniels, Lance S.  
Dark, Jan M.  
Daugherty, Jenifred L.  
Davidson, Oneawa K.  
Davis, Anthony P.  
Davis, Billy  
Davis, Don J.  
Davis, Estelen  
Davis, Glenn M.  
Davis, Gwendolyn  
Davis, Hugh N.  
Davis, Linda F.  
Davis, Martha K.  
Davis, Mary M.  
Davis, Mella M.  
Davis, Michele J.  
Davis, Nicole R.  
Davis JR., Oneil  
Dawson, Ronald J.  
Day, James H.  
Day, Ora M.  
Deacon, Denette A.  
Dean, Richard V.  
Deaver, Sarah J.  
Deer, Isaac  
Deere, Christopher C.  
Deere, Dana M.  
Deere, Kerry A.  
Deere, Mord H.  
Deere, Samuel R.  
Deerinwater, George E.  
Demry, Lacy D.  
Denney, Melissa A.  
Dennis, Beverly S.  
Deo, Steven T.  
Deroin, Debra C.  
Determan, Freda  
Dewoody, Margaret L.  
Dickerson, Crawford K.  
Dickerson SR., R.S.  
Dickey (Fleet), Alice  
Dickson (Jones), Velve  
Diehl, Daniel S.  
Factor (Franks), Peggy  
Factor, Stephen W.  
Falconer, Barbara A.  
Faris (Madrid), Jamie  
Farnsworth, Kathy S.  
Feagan (Jensen), Anna

Featherston, Lee  
Felix, Richard A.  
Feliz (Pittman), Helen  
**Attention to all Joseph Marks, Veatrice Marks, and Beatrice Marks decendants**  
  
The following are hereb y notified to contact the Citizenship Board Office by Agust 3, by 500p.m.  
Lynetta Williams  
Anita Keeper  
James Sylvester Mason Jr.  
Wanda Faye Keeler  
Valencia Faith Shannon  
Terry Wayne Shannon II  
Willie Dean Shannon II  
Jimmie Olen Marks  
William Ralph Grundy, Jr.  
Terry Wayne Shannon  
Otis Jr. Dwight Marks  
Shaunette G Hawkins  
Travis L. Hawkins  
Travis L. Hawkins  
Ora Marks tyler  
Debra Lynn Mason Webb  
Orea Marks Tyler  
Althea Divon Marks  
Joe Anne Harris  
Brice Christopher Harris  
Sherri Ann Harris  
Reba Marks Newan  
Cayal D. Danna  
Jiah D. Marks  
Eugene Tyler  
Willie Dean Shannon  
Margaret K. Marks  
Sylvia Denise Selmon  
Jayon Jay Selmon  
Freda J. Selmon  
Imogene Pinkie Jordan  
Catherine Marks Bellamy  
Lonnie B. Marks  
Coydell Miller Jr.  
Victor Cornell Miller  
Stefan Cornelius Caddy  
Emmanual Alexander Caddy  
Sandy G. Marks  
Michael V. Marks  
Darienea Annette Marks  
Anthony Eugene Williams  
Cedric Joseph  
Evelyn Curtisene Carter  
Nicholle Arjuan Carter  
Kathy Lynn Kelly  
Jocelyn N. Thompson  
Walter Boyd  
Milford June Carter II  
Suzanne Alcox Letitia  
Contact the Muscogee (Creek) NationCitizenship Board at 1-800-482-1979 or (918) 756-7800, ext 7940/7941/7942/7943.

MVTO to firemen and auxiliaries  
CHECOTAH - In February, the members of the Checotah Indian Community approved to donate \$5000 each to 12 fire departments. The departments are: Checotah, FAIC, Hitchita, Leisure Land, Tiger Mountain, Lottawatah, Onapa, Paradise Point, Porum Landing, Rentiesville, Shady Grove-Central High, and Texanna. Many members of our Community have been affected by the wildfires in our community and these fire departments were there to help save properties, livestock and most importantly lives. We held a reception for the departments and presented each with a \$5000.00 check. We hope that this donation will help deter costs of equipment breakdowns and supply shortages. Again, we would like to say MVTO (Thank you) to all the firemen and auxiliaries that assisted during the outbreak of wildfires.



06 Creek Nation 4-H SUMMER Camp  
The 2006 Creek Nation 4-H Summer Camp was held June 19-21 at the O.S.U.-Okmulgee Campus and the Okmulgee Indian Community Center. 22 youth took part in the event. Nationally known musician and poet Joy Harjo taught on the history of traditional Creek music and its impact on current music. Ms. Harjo helped the youth produce a CD containing songs sang by the youth in the Creek Language. The CD also contained portions written by the youth.



Will Hill and Jeahnen Washington conducted a class on storytelling and oral history. Hill and Washington then directed the in youth in performing two traditional stories, which was part of the closing ceremony. Sam and David Proctor spoke to the youth about the history and traditions of the Stomp Dance followed by a Stomp Dance with the youth participating. The Muscogee Nation Language Program conducted classes on Creek language. They taught the camp participants the Muscogee names for common items, such as foods and body parts. The youth also wrote a story in the Muscogee language. Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative offered instruction on traditional Muscogee foods and how to prepare them. The youth helped prepare a traditional meal for the closing ceremony. Ted Isham, of the Creek Council House Museum, taught on traditional games and there role in Muscogee Society. The Creek youth made their own ball sticks and played a game of stickball, boys against girls, don't ask the boys who won. The camp concluded with a performance of what the youth had learned and a traditional meal prepared, with help from the youth. Parents, instructors and employees of the Creek Nation where invited.



2006 Joint Tribes JOM Youth Conference

OKLAHOMA CITY — If you happened to be in the Oklahoma City area during June 25<sup>th</sup> through June 26 and saw a group of good looking Indian high school student in lime green shirts – it was probably the JOM Youth Conference students.

Close to 60 students from the Chickasaw, Choctaw and Creek Nations, attend the 2006 Conference. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation JOM Program was the host for this year conference and sponsored in 23 students to attend.

Activities at the Conference varied from visiting the Capitol with Representative Lisa Billy, visiting the Oklahoma City Memorial, attending team building workshops and learning Native crafts. There was even a stickball game held right on the grounds of the hotel hosted by the Creek Nation Diabetes program.

According to Alyssa Bear, a student from Jenks high school, “I came away from the Conference with more friends and more respect for my elders. The Memorial made me realize the value of life and the things I have, my family and my niece Kylie. I realized what they all mean to me and I don’t want to ever experience the pain that parents did in April.”

Ashley Pahsetopah of Sapulpa said “I enjoyed meeting new people and learning to play stick ball.”

Chance Marsey of Depew said, “I had a great time meeting new people and



2006 JOM Conference attendees

learning to show respect not only to my elders but to my fellow peers as well.”

Darren Fields of Preston said, “I felt sad and touched at the Memorial because I feel that those people shouldn’t have had to go through what they went through.”

There were also a total of twelve elders who guided the students through the daily activities all the while teaching life les-

sons. Elder, Gwen Parish-Bart said, “It’s a wonderful time for both elders and youth to meet on common ground and share those traditions that aren’t being passed on. It was a time for the youth to see the leadership from their elders and set their goals for their own leadership roles. This was the best Conference ever and I want to come back next year.”

Eufaula Dormitory now Accepting Applications

EUFAULA — Creek Nation Eufaula Dormitory is now accepting applications for enrollment for the 2006-2007 school term. Eufaula Dormitory is a BIA funded peripheral dormitory for boys and girls, 1<sup>st</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The enrollment date for Middle School and High School students is Tuesday, August 8, 2006 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Elementary students will enroll on Wednesday, August 9, 2006 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Enrollment is limited. Therefore, contact the dormitory as soon as possible for applications. Classes begin on Thursday, August 10, 2006 at the Eufaula Public Schools.

All new students are required to have a CDIB, Social Security card, up-to-date immunization records, birth certificate, physical, report cards and/or transcript from the previous school year. All returning students grades 5-12 will need to have a sports physical if they are planning to participate in sports.

Eufaula Dormitory has implemented five (5) day residential services for our program. In this program, each weekend, our students are taken to a designated bus stop location in their area on Friday evening and picked up at the same location on Sunday afternoon/early evening. Eufaula Dormitory offers a structured environment with supplementary services such as tutoring, behavioral and academic counseling, library and computer-learning resource center.

For further information write to the following address: Creek Nation Eufaula Dormitory, 716 Swadley Drive, Eufaula, OK 74432 or contact the Administration Office at 1-(800) 896-3181 or (918) 689-2522.

Regent’s attend conference in Chicago

*submitted by Board of Regents*

OKMULGEE — One of the many tasks its faced as Regent’s of a college in it’s infancy, is to make certain we are creating an institution that our people will not only attend, but also will be proud to have attended. In order to establish ourselves in higher education, we must strive to obtain accreditation from North Central Association (NCA).

Each year the Higher Learning Commission of the NCA holds a conference in Chicago, which this year was the 111<sup>th</sup> annual meeting and was held from March 31 through April 4. There were approximately 2, 800 people in attendance from educational institutions from across NCA’s region which includes, Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, New Mexico, South Dakota, Wisconsin, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

The conference is a multi-faceted event, offering over 200 sessions including roundtables and events. NCA offers accreditation to various educational institutions spanning from universities to distance learning providers. Of these various institutions, some were seeking accreditation, such as ourselves, others were seeking to maintain accreditation, and still oth-

ers were some where in between.

We learned throughout the conference, that we have a lot more to learn, but isn’t that what higher education is all about? The first full day of the conference, spent in a room with Lady Branham, the Deputy to the Executive Director of NCA, where she overviewed the steps necessary for any institution to be accredited. Frankly, her portion of the seminar could have been held everyday of the conference and she still would have needed more time to explain the detail of the endeavor that we have embarked upon. The next couple of days spent in roundtables where we met with other people from Tribal Colleges and discussed the concerns, challenges, and benefits of being a Tribal College.

One of the main things that I personally took away from attending this conference was that others have been where we stand now, that others have persevered, and that with the support that we have received from the Chief, the Council, OSU, and our fellow citizens we will not only achieve accreditation but we will also succeed in creating a well respected College where we can be proud to send our citizens and where they will receive a first class education making them a valuable resource to our Tribe.

American Indian Fellowship In Business Scholarships

MESA,AZ — Each year, the National Center of American Indian Enterprise Development awards scholarships to American Indian colleges or graduate students majoring in business. Scholarships are awarded at the Indian Progress in Business Awards Banquet (INPRO) at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles, California.

INPRO 2006 will be held on Thursday, September 21, 2006. In addition to the scholarships, recipients are provided airfare and lodging to attend INPRO. Recipients must be available to attend the event.

Three to five American Indian Fellowship in Business Scholarships will be given to American Indian college students majoring in business who are currently in their junior, senior, or master level of study.

Eligible students must be enrolled full-time and be at the junior, senior, or graduate level. Applicants must submit the application, as well as a statement request-

ing consideration and stating their reasons for pursuing higher education, their plans following completion of their degree and any other relevant information such as activities and commitment to the community. Submitted applications must include separate essays (250 words each) that specifically address Community Involvement, Personal Challenges, and Business Experience (Paid or Volunteer) criteria to earn maximum points. Applicants are judged primarily on achievement and commitment to the community. Transcripts (official or unofficial) and documentation of tribal enrollment must accompany the application. For further information please contact Tracey Jennings at 1-800-4NCAIED Ext 234 or e-mail events@ncaied.org.

Applications must be received no later than August 4, 2006 by mail or fax:

NCAIED Scholarship Committee  
953 East Juanita Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85204 Fax: (480) 545-4208

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Offers GED Classes

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation G.E.D. classes will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. The classes will be located in the Human Development Building on the Creek Nation complex.

For more information contact Deborah McGirt at 800-482-1979 or (918) 732-7780.

NAFA Scholarship Recipients

OKMULGEE — The Native American Fund Advisors (NAFA) provides a scholarship to Muscogee (Creek) students who are majoring in the area of Business, Finance or Accounting.

The Scholarship was established by a generous donation of the NAFA. NAFA is one of a few Indian owned and operated fee based investment management firms in the U.S. The NAFA founders and current owners represent citizenships from the Cherokee, Chickasaw, and Muscogee (Creek) Nations. NAFA is located in Tulsa, and offers bond and equity portfolio management for tribal governments, foundations, corporations, trusts, pensions and profit sharing plans and high net-worth individuals.

Four NAFA scholarships of \$1000 per student are awarded yearly through the Higher Education Department. To be eligible, a student must remain full-time status for the

entire academic year and maintain a 2.5 or more on a 4.0 scale.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Higher Education Administration announces the following students that are receiving the \$1000 per year scholarship and will continue for the academic year 06/07:

- 1) Darren Ferguson Oklahoma State University,
- 2) John Neal University of Central Oklahoma,
- 3) Mahaya On-The-Hill Northeastern State University,
- 4) Kyle Wittman University of Oklahoma,

The Higher Education Departmental staff, on behalf of the students, are very appreciative of the scholarship and thanks the NAFA founders for their support and making the scholarship available.

Creek and Cherokee Nation Partners with local school to provide summer Pride Program

MUSKOGEE, Okla. – The Cherokee Nation and the Creek Nation is partnering with Muskogee Public Schools to offer “Muskogee Rougher Summer Pride” to help raise awareness of the need for healthy lifestyles in school age children.

“It is great to be a partner with this community (Muskogee), the Creek Nation, and most of all, the volunteers who are working in so many ways to make this program a success,” said Cherokee Nation District 4 Tribal Council member Don Garvin.

Creek Nation National Council representative Eddie LaGrone agreed. “Cooperative partnerships such as this one between the Muscogee Creek Nation, the Cherokee Nation and Muskogee Public Schools serve to benefit all students involved specifically the Native American students.”

The Rougher Diabetes Wellness Program, or “Summer Pride,” provides diabetes screening and educational activities to make

participants aware of the early signs of diabetes and how to live a preventative lifestyle.

“We would not have been able to continue this program this summer without the generous support from the Cherokee Nation and the Creek Nation,” said Mike Gordon, superintendent of Muskogee Public Schools.

The Summer Pride program, which is in its 4<sup>th</sup> year and has over 500 participants, began on June 5<sup>th</sup> and last until July 19<sup>th</sup>.

“I believe the secret in the fight against diabetes is to have a healthy diet and daily dose of exercise,” Garvin said. “This must be started at an early age to help develop good habits and I believe this program is going to get this community headed in the right direction.”

For more information on the Summer Pride Program, contact Muskogee Public Schools at (918) 684-3700.



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Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference holds annual meeting.



Native Veteran remembered and honored.



“Superchief” was One of a Kind.



Section B, Page 1 MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS July 2006

Cultural Activities

Children’s Creek Cultural Classes

GLENPOOL – The Summer Reading Program at the Tulsa Library American Indian Resource Center will be hosting a Children’s Creek Cultural Class on July 21 and 28 from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. at the Glenpool Library. The library is located at 730 E. 141st Street.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Preservation department will present storytelling, songs and activities about the Muscogee people. The event is for ages 5-12.

Using the Dawes Rolls seminar

TULSA – The Maxwell Park Library will be having a “Using the Dawes Rolls” seminar on July 17 from 6:30 until 8 p.m. The library is located at 1313 N. Canton.

Kathy Huber, Genealogy Center librarian, will explain the historical background of the rolls and how to use them. This event is for adults.

54<sup>th</sup> Annual Tulsa Powwow

TULSA – Tulsa Indian Club Inc. and Tulsa Native Network (TNN) will host the 54th Annual Tulsa Powwow on July 21, 22 and 23 at the Tulsa Convention Center, Exhibit Hall C from 12 p.m. until midnight. There will be contests in all categories.

For sponsorship and vendor information, contact Tulsa Indian Club Inc. at (918) 671-2417 or send an e-mail to tici@tulsapowwow.org. For artist and arts and crafts information, call Sammy Haynes at (918) 449-0344. For the latest information on all events visit www.tulsapowwow.org.

2006 Powwow of Champions

TULSA – The Intertribal Indian Club of Tulsa (IICOT) will be hosting the 29th Annual 2006 Powwow of Champions on August 11, 12 and 13 at the Tulsa State Fairgrounds Expo Building.

Admission for the event is \$5 per person. There are family passes are available at \$16 for 4 persons and \$20 for 5 persons. Children 5 years and under are free.

For vendor contract or more information, call (918) 321-3460 or (918) 838-8276, e-mail, arts-n-crafts@iicot.org or visit their website at www.iicot.org.

38th Annual Seminole Nation Days

SEMINOLE – The Seminole Nation of Oklahoma will be celebrating its 38th Annual Seminole Nation Days on August 3 through 6 at the Mekusukey Mission. The theme of this year’s celebration is “*Proud History - Bright Future.*”

There are four days of activities planned. Those include golf, softball, volleyball, basketball and horseshoe tournaments, cultural demonstrations, a historical drama and parade. James Walker & Smokehouse Blues Band, Smilin` Vic, Big G and Red Dawn, will perform Friday night and John Anderson, country and western singer, will be providing a concert on Saturday night. There will also be a carnival. All activities are free to the public.

For more information, contact Tammy Norris or Susie McNeal at (405) 257-7200.

Native American History Series: A Remarkable Seneca Sachem *by Patrick E. Moore*

An absolutely remarkable man was born in 1828 at Pembroke, New York on lands owned by the Seneca Nation. His mother was the daughter of an Iroquois Prophet and his father was a Seneca Sachem. Early in his life and before he was 20 years of age the women of his clan picked him to be a Seneca Sachem and gave him his Seneca name, Do-ne-ho-ga-wa. This name described his responsibilities as a Sachem and meant “Keeper of the Western Door of the Long House of the Iroquois.”

Do-ne-ho-ga-wa took the English name of Ely Samuel Parker and through a federal government program to educate Native Americans, he studied law, however when he applied for admission to the New York State Bar Association he was denied admission because Indians were not considered to be United States citizens.

While attending law school he met and became close friends with another young lawyer, Lewis Henry Morgan. The two men remained lifelong friends and through their joint efforts Morgan was able to study, research and write numerous books and articles on the Iroquois, to such an extent that Morgan is called “the father of American Anthropology.” The first book written by Morgan in collaboration with Parker was published in 1851.

Ely Parker then continued his education at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and was graduated as a civil engineer. His college study of law and engineering gave him a command of the English language most Native Americans lacked in the mid-19th century.

The Iroquois Nation picked him to be the interpreter in their negotiations with the United States and New York and he was instrumental in drafting treaties protecting Iroquois land rights in New York.

His close friend Lewis Henry Morgan helped him become one of the civil engineers designing the Genessee Valley Canal project. It was during the construction of the canal that he met and became a friend a local public official, Ulysses S. Grant.

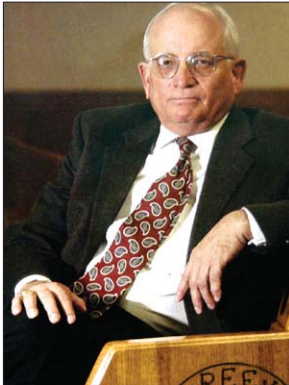
When the Civil War broke out Ely Parker enlisted in the Union Army, the now General Ulysses S. Grant selected him to serve on Grant’s personal staff. The now Colonel Ely Parker’s task was to prepare all orders and journals pertaining to the General’s operations in command of the army of the United States.

While serving in this position General Ulysses S. Grant asked that the Colonel to use his legal education, knowledge of English and fine hand writing skills to prepared the final surrender documents ending the Civil War. Colonel Parker personally penned the surrender agreement that was signed by Confederate General Robert E. Lee at Appomattox Court-house in 1865.

After General Robert E. Lee signed the surrender documents he saluted Ulysses S. Grant, shook Colonel Ely S. Parker’s hand and said, “It is nice to see one real American here today.”

Ely Parker was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General in 1867 and continued to serve in the United States Army until Ulysses S. Grant was elected President of the United States at which time President Grant wanted his old and trusted friend to take on another important task as the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

While serving as the first Indian Commissioner of Indian Affairs he defended the rights of the Indian and was therefore disliked by many of the politicians in Washington, D.C. These same politicians began to accuse him of taking bribes and committing fraud.



Moore

Accomplished Native American writer and Muscogee (Creek) citizen Joy Harjo will be submitting a monthly article about her many travels throughout the country. Many of her encounters will include visiting with other Creek citizens and Native Americans throughout the United States.

Look for Joy’s article each month on the cultural page. To introduce Joy to our readers, here is a bio prepared by her.

Joy Harjo is a full citizen of the Muscogee Nation. She was born in the Creek Nation in Tulsa, Oklahoma in 1951. Her father was Allen W. Foster, Jr. of the Tiger, or Katcv Clan, and Hickory Ground was his tribal town. His mother was Naomi Harjo Foster. Her parents were Katie Monahwee and Henry Marsey Harjo. Harjo was told by her Aunt Lois Harjo Ball that the family settled in Tiger Flats when they came to Indian Territory. Henry Marsey Harjo was Wind Clan and of Eufaula Canadian Tribal Town. Harjo’s mother is Wynema Jewell Pickett, a Cherokee citizen, who lives in Tulsa. Harjo lives in Honolulu, Hawaii and teaches at the University of New Mexico every fall in Albuquerque where her daughter Rainy Dawn Ortiz lives with her husband Tim Chee and five children. Her son Phil Wilmon/Bush lives in Wisconsin with his daughter Haleigh Sarah. And her stepdaughter Ratoniah Wilmon Clayton is outside of Seattle. Harjo will tell you that though she has accumulated quite a list of accomplishments [including publication of eight books of poetry, an anthology of native writing, two CD’s of music, a spoken word CD, performances here and there (including HBO’s Def Poetry Jam, the Ford Theater in Los Angeles), and she co-wrote the signature film of the Smithsonian Museum of the American Indian], her grandchildren and children are at the top of the list, for without them none of this would have happened. Harjo reminds us that her list of failures is much longer, maybe even as long as the Arkansas River, and says that though she is a direct descendent of Monahwee, she is also descended from family members who lived for guitars and singing and has inherited a strong gene for parking junked cars in the yard.



Harjo

Coming and going in Indian country *by Joy Harjo*

Thursday night of the Creek Nation Festival, after we filled ourselves up with plates from Charlie’s Chicken, my sister and I dragged our chairs up to the stomp dance circle to enjoy the music and the company. Usually I’m right in there with my shells. That night I just took the spirit of it all in as the music carried us: the ongoing stories of friends, and the prodigious growth in the nation. I was in mourning for a beloved friend, a Mvskoke citizen who was buried just hours before, far away from the nation. He had left Wagoner with his family when he was eleven. Later he joined the military, married a Hawaiian woman and stayed in Honolulu. Bill Tiger made a community in the islands for many of us. He embodied the spirit of vnoketckv. And because of him when people far from Oklahoma think of the Mvskoke they’ll think Tiger: tall, outgoing and generous.

When we leave the tight circle of the nation in Oklahoma we become emissaries of a sort, whether we are officially appointed as such, or not. Anywhere we Mvskokes go we’re often the only Mvskoke anyone ever meets, or even the only Indian. And you can be sure that wherever you are, at the grounds, in church, or on a street half way across the world from Oklahoma, someone is always watching to see how you act.

I left Oklahoma late summer of 1967 for high school at the Institute of American Indian Arts, a BIA Indian school in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Everything I owned was packed into my brand new army green footlocker. Richard Ray Whitman, Yuchi Creek was a student there, as were the Fife sisters: Phyllis and Sandy. I left again with a Cherokee husband, son and stepdaughter in 1970 in a car whose trunk slid off every few miles. We frequently ran out into the road and retrieve it. Since then I’ve lived mostly in New Mexico and Hawaii. I’ve gotten to do a bit of traveling to perform, from Argentina to a music festival north of the Arctic Circle in Saami country in Norway. What always strikes me is that no matter where or how far away from Oklahoma I travel, though we may be few and far be-

tween out there, I always meet up with Creeks.

I’ll never forget Alex Posey’s granddaughter being wheeled up to meet me at the Heard Museum in Phoenix. And some years back when I was feeling a little bewildered in the middle of Pennsylvania, Rosemary McCombs Maxey came up and introduced herself and made me feel at home. I was in New York City a few years ago and was proud to catch Tim Sampson appearing in his father, Sonny Sampson’s classic role in the Broadway show, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*.

In this column I’ll be regularly reporting on and commenting about what’s going out here on that might be pertinent for our people. We have lots of talent all over, and there’s always something going on in Indian country.

I just received news from Muscogee citizen, Eddie Chuculate that his story: “Galveston Bay 1826” will be included in the O. Henry Prize Stories of 2007, which will be published by Anchor Books. Now this is quite an accomplishment, and one of the most prestigious awards for short fiction. It’s sort of like slamming a win in a national ballgame playoff. He’s the first Mvskoke citizen to win such an honor. He says: “Raymond and Frances Narcomey were my full-blooded Creek great-grandparents. He was a preacher at West Eufaula Indian Baptist Church for decades. They had a house in Hanna, right across the street from Hillabee Indian Baptist Church. Maxine (Narcomey) Flanary, was my Creek grandmother, also full-blood even though it said 15/16 on her CDIB, which is ridiculous, because both her parents (Raymond and Frances) were both 4/4. My mother is Lorencita (Narcomey) Holmes. Dad was Donald Everett Chuculate (Cherokee)”. Other great American writers to achieve this honor include F. Scott Fitzgerald, James Baldwin and Louise Erdrich. Congratulations.

Will see you next month. Until then you can reach me via e-mail nativesax@yahoo.com.

The ensuing investigation completely cleared Parker and instead pointed the finger of guilt at the accusing politicians, who themselves had been taking large sums money from wealthy railroad owners and land speculators for legislation unfriendly to Indian land interests.

A disgusted Ely S. Parker resigned his post as Commissioner of Indian Affairs and returned to private life where he continued to serve the Seneca and contribute to the accumulation of historical data on the Iroquois Confederacy until his death in 1895. He was able through his personal stature and prominence to prevent any further encroachments onto or loss of Seneca Nation lands in the state of New York. His nephew Arthur C. Parker became the first archaeologist with the New York State Museum and later became the Director of the Rochester Museum continuing the Ely Samuel Parker Legacy.



Senior Service Manager Update *by Jackson Barnett*



second annual “Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans” celebration.

For those unfamiliar with military history, this celebration was to give the military men and women returning home after Vietnam war a proper welcome home that they did not receive. Those returning from previous wars experienced tickertape parades. Recognition, and celebrations. Vietnam veterans experienced negative reactions such as having things thrown at them, verbal abuse

and to the point of being called baby killers. So a movement was started to give those Vietnam

veterans the welcome home I and others feel they deserve. The city of Branson was very receptive and thus this yearly celebration had its first annual gathering last year.

I myself was in the military during the early part of that era. I was fortunate that I did not experience such treatment. However,

hearing my brothers and sisters receiving this type of treatment made me feel that I was being thought of in this way also. I was only too happy to arrange this trip for our tribal veterans of whom there are many.

The following Mvskoke veterans made the journey to Branson. Jackson Barnett, program manager and arranger, Brent Moffer, Driver, Donnie Dunzey, Danny McKinney, Edward Starr, Sonny Skaggs, George Barnett, Frank Chisum, Amos Harjo, and Mrs. Harjo, who was treated like a queen by all our guys.

Our first stop, of course, was for lunch in Chouteau, Oklahoma. The restaurant there, by the way, was featured in the Tulsa World just a few days ago. It is operated by the Amish people living around Chouteau. I thought we were never going to stop eating to continue traveling. But we finally did after a pound or two gained.

We headed on to the Cherokee turnpike East into Siloam Springs on the Arkansas line and continued East for some sixty miles. After going through miles of mountainous roads we turned North on Highway 65 straight into Branson. Not much happening that evening. We had a good dinner after getting our rooms then returned and rested. The next morning

afforded the opportunity to wander and shop with the many vendors. After lunch it was almost time for the Powwow to begin.

Immediately upon our arrival at the ground, the arena director, a Ho-Chunk from Wisconsin, came out to greet us and asked if we had brought our Tribal Flag. We replied that we had, then he asked if we were willing to lead the grand entry for both the afternoon and evening sessions. We were happy to be of some help. One of our veterans, Amos Harjo, gave the opening prayer to begin the Powwow. During the evening session, a special dance was held for each of the military branches. Some of us danced, some did not.

The next morning, Friday the parade was scheduled to step off at 10:00 a.m. we were at the assembly point at 9:30 a.m. our number in line was forty-one and the parade route was one mile and six tenths. We marched east facing the sun and it was plenty hot. Two of our veterans were not able to make the march so they rode on a “Duck” a military vehicle made to travel on land and water. The rest of us marched single file proudly carrying our Mvskoke Flag and a special banner made for special occasions such as this.

The crowds seemed appreciative and many pictures were taken of us. I guess we were special as there were no other Indian

tribes in the parade. Probably because I was the last in line, the person broadcasting the parade a the parade at the reviewing stand

came out and stuck a microphone in my face and asked me to tell something about our tribe. I told the people what I could in the minute or so that I had. We finished the march at 11:30 a.m. and immediately boarded our vans and began our way home. We stopped in Joplin, Missouri for lunch then made it on in just in time for the beginning of the Creek Festival.

It was a good experience and our guys and lady represented our tribe well. I was very proud of them all. I understand there is to be another

veterans celebration there even bigger than this year’s. I may try to arrange another trip there around veterans day holiday in November.

I had hoped there would be more of our veterans taking part. However I can do only so much, make preparations and arrangements but I can’t make people participate.

I thank those Mvskoke veterans who went. I thank Lizanne Holata for making our lodging reservations just across the street from where most of the activities took place. All went well.

Until next time, *Mvto* and sincerely!



Leading the Grand Entry for the Pow Wow

Creek Nation 2006 Festival Sr. Activities Results

By Chumona Polecat

Horseshoe contest

1. July Harjo – \$200
2. Leon Bell – \$150
3. Reuben Kelly – \$100

Quilt Contest

1. Cogee Long – \$200
2. Annie Mae O’Field – \$150
3. Lillian Thomas – \$100

Jacks contest

1. Pat Sloan – \$50
2. Rachel Asbury Bruner – \$30
3. B.J. Hampton – \$20

Original Allottees

The original allottees got recognition from the Centenarian Club of Oklahoma and received a Certificate and a Golden Okie Pin.

Martha Berryhill – Mrs. Berryhill will be 106 years old on July 12. A birthday party will be held at the Sr. Citizens Nutrition Center, Okmulgee on July 12 at 1:00 p.m.

Ada Wolfe – Mrs. Wolfe passed away Monday July 3, 2006 her final resting place will be the Oakdale cemetery in Depew. Services will be held Saturday 10:00 a.m. at the Hutchins-Maple Funeral Home in Bristow, OK.

Lucy Nelson - The state of Oklahoma recognized her with a certificate and a Golden Okie Pin.

NOTICE:

Chief Ellis requests all Creek citizens who are Artisan’s to submit the following information: Name, Address, Art/Craft to Muscogee (Creek) Nation, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447 or call (918) 732-7643.

Administration Lobby Showcases Creek Heritage

By Sunny Tiger, Tribal Planning

OKMULGEE — Transformed from brick, the lobby of the administration building at the Creek Capital complex has changed into a beautiful entrance displaying the daily lives of Creek people from times of past to modern, with traditional and non-traditional items.

As one enters they are embraced by the magnificent lives of Creek citizens. The display cases in the lobby are a place to “show off” our heritage.

The collection found in the display cases of the lobby is not only unique, but would be hard to exactly duplicate. Some of the items in this first quarter include pottery, a Creek Bible, a pair of ball sticks, a collection of art from the Five Civilized Tribes Museum, a Native American collection of salt and pepper shakers, a Purple Heart, books, photographs, a ribbon dress, locv (turtle shell shakers) and many more items.

This collection was displayed from the end of February and has lasted until the Creek Festival, the middle of June. The owners were then notified their items are ready for pick up.

Those participating in this first session of the display case donations were: Principal Chief A. D. Ellis, James Proctor, Jack Chaney, Evelyn Smith, Carrol (Sonny) Been, Harvey Gilroy, Salina Jayne-Dornan, D. Brent Moffer, Janet Lee, The Five Civilized Tribes Museum on behalf of Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Ben Chaney, Ruth Bible and Mallory Bible.

A very special thank you to all those who participated in this quarter of the display case donations. Without your participation our new display cases would have been empty. So once again, thank you so much for your generosity with your priceless treasures.

For those who would like to donate to the display cases, one must be an enrolled citizen. It is a loan type basis, we keep the items for three to six months. Then notify the person when the agreed time is reached.

For more information please contact Sunny Tiger at (918) 732-7823 in the Tribal Planning Department.



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**Muscogee (Creek) Citizen**

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Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference holds annual meeting *by Rev. David Wilson*

ANADARKO — Hundreds of Native American United Methodists converged for the annual meeting of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference of The United Methodist Church, which is comprised of 89 Native churches in Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas on June 8 through 11.

Delegates to the churches met to discuss the business of the conference, and to celebrate accomplishments through worship and fellowship. The conference opened with a procession of tribal flags from the state of Oklahoma, which represented the membership of the Methodist Conference.

Resident Bishop, Robert E. Hayes, Jr., challenged the delegates to share the good news of what happened over the four day annual conference.

“What happened here can’t stay here,” Bishop Hayes said. “When people ask what happened at annual conference, we must tell them about what we have done and what we will continue to do,” he said.

Delegates celebrated many accomplishments over the past year, including the formation of new fellowships in native communities in Oklahoma and

Kansas, said Rev. David Wilson, Conference Superintendent.

Wilson reported that new fellowships are now formed in Hulbert, Oklahoma,

Durant, Oklahoma, North Oklahoma City, and a revitalized fellowship at Kabeah Chapel, located on the Kickapoo Reservation at Horton, Kansas.

“We are excited that there continues to be possibilities for new ministries across our conference,” Wilson said. “There continues to be a great need for new ministries in many places across our conference, and the conference is thankful that we have been able to be present in these locations.”

“It is hoped that the fellowships will eventually be chartered as United Methodist churches in the near future,” Wilson said.

“Delegates celebrated financial accomplishments, including their payment of 100 percent of its world service apportionments, which supports missions and ministry across the world,” Wilson said. This was the eighth year in a row that the conference has paid 100 percent.

A report of accomplishments regarding the conference’s response to

those affected last year by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita was presented, which highlighted the eight volunteer work teams that went to Mississippi and to the United Houma Nation in Louisiana.

Disaster Response Director, Phillis McCarty applauded the teams that went to both places to assist with those in need. She reported that there remains much to be done with those areas, including a continued response to the United Houma Nation. A team leaders training is scheduled for the fall for persons who will lead teams to continue with the rebuilding efforts.

Mrs. McCarty also reported that the conference is working with United Methodist Committee on Relief to secure a grant for the United Houma Nation to get a staff person employed to work with the disaster response.

A special service was held on June 9, commemorating the 50th anniversary of full clergy rights for women in The Methodist tradition. Twenty-one clergy women in the conference led the service, recognizing the contributions that native clergy women have made to the Church.

Delegates recognized persons such as the Rev. Lois Glory Neal, who

was the conference’s first Native American female seminary graduate and the first Native American female superintendent for the entire denomination.

Delegates passed a resolution, affirming its commitment to taking intentional steps to affirm the use of tribal language in the conference through tribal hymns, which comprise a large part of the worship in OIMC churches. The resolution was presented by Dr. Richard Grounds, a member of Pickett Chapel UMC and active participant in the retention of tribal languages across the state.

The resolution calls for the conference to find ways to encourage the use of tribal language in the churches through prayer, worship, recordings and preservation of tribal hymns.

Time will be set aside at the 2007 annual conference session to highlight

a tribal singing competition time for the children and youth in OIMC churches.

The OIMC represents the largest concentration of Native American United Methodists in the entire country. This was the 164th

gathering of the historic Indian Missionary Conference, which began among the Cherokees, Creeks and Choctaws.



The clergy and lay persons are preparing to process in for the tribal flag procession at the annual conference.



Here is a photo of the Native Clergywomen who were recognized at our annual conference.

University provides site for satellite seminary in Oklahoma *by Holly McCray, “Contact” magazine editor*

OKLAHOMA CITY — A United Methodist university has agreed to provide space to a seminary for a satellite campus for United Methodists in the region.

Oklahoma City University and church-related Saint Paul School of Theology in Kansas City, Missouri, have agreed in principle to establish the Saint Paul Theological Seminary at Oklahoma City University, making it the only United Methodist seminary in the state.

The agreement between the university and seminary was announced May 29 during the 2006 Oklahoma Annual (regional) Conference, and the satellite campus is expected to begin accepting theological students in fall 2007. The action has been approved by Saint Paul officials and faculty.

Conference delegates responded with applause and cheers when Oklahoma Bishop Robert E. Hayes Jr. announced the news in his episcopal address. They also warmly greeted Oklahoma City University President Tom McDaniel when he addressed the conference about the plan.

“I’m just elated this has come about. I know the importance of what a United Methodist education can do for people in the church,” Hayes said. “You soak in everything from the United Methodist presence in that setting. I want our people to be prepared, to pass that on to those in the pews.”

He acknowledged Saint Paul School of Theology as “a school steeped in issues of social justice, in working with people on the margins of society.” The seminary teaches its students how to address churches involved in those areas, he said. “It’s a perfect match for Oklahoma.”

McDaniel said the seminary has “more and more non-traditional students,” which he defines as “people who are going back to the university after being out in the community doing something else - older students, more established” in their lives.

“For those who want to go to a United Methodist seminary, this will be more convenient. This will broaden the base of opportunity,” he noted. He sees the satellite seminary at Oklahoma City University as being “squarely” within the university’s mission as a place of higher education in the state.

Hayes and McDaniel believe the seminary also will appeal to people beyond those entering formal ministry. They envision pairing seminary study with other disciplines at the university, such as the schools of law, business and music. The new seminary will be the eighth college at the university.

“There is a need for people who don’t want to go into ministry but want to further their education in theological ways,” Hayes said. “This will provide other opportunities: church administration, sacred music, church law.”

Scholarships will be a focus of fund-raising for the school. McDaniel said corporate support will be crucial.

*Serving Native Americans*

“Probably the most rewarding aspect of this for me is the relationship the seminary will have to the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference,” Hayes said.

The officials are leading the way to secure funding to pay all seminary costs for United Methodist Native Americans in Oklahoma, Kansas and portions of Texas wanting to enter into ministry. They hope to expand that to cover undergraduate degree costs too. The bishop said about 10 ordained elders serve in the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference, which has 90 churches.

“We are excited about Saint Paul School of Theology’s new satellite campus at Oklahoma City University. Its proximity will serve OIMC very well,” said the Rev. David Wilson, superintendent of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Confer-



UMNS photo by Holly McCray  
Bishop Robert Hayes (left) greets Oklahoma City University President Tom McDaniel during the Oklahoma Annual Conference.

ence. “In this new venture, any Native American United Methodist in our annual conference can attend seminary for free.”

The cost of seminary has been prohibitive for many young native people, Wilson said. The location of the satellite campus will assist in recruiting young native people into ordained ministry “because of the fact that it will be of no cost to native people,” he said.

*Open to all*

McDaniel reported 33 other higher education institutions operate in Oklahoma. “There is competition and, in the long run, it makes us all better,” he said. “What we want to offer is a choice,” he said.

Saint Paul Theological Seminary would be accessible to all, Hayes said. “It is just simply us trying to look out after the needs of United Methodist students who want to learn in a United Methodist environment.”

The bishop was a pastor in the Texas Conference when Perkins School of Theology, based at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, expanded into the Houston area. The initial goal was 20 students; 80 were enrolled by the second year.

“You would be saturating this jurisdiction if you had more than two full seminaries,” Hayes explained. “We already have two: Saint Paul and Perkins. We decided a satellite campus with Saint Paul is better for our needs.”

Church Activities

Youth Revival

OKEMAH — Buckeye Creek Baptist Church will be having a youth revival on July 20 through 22. All youth are welcome to come.

For more information, call (918) 623-4222.

Co-ed Slow Pitch Softball Tournament

DEWAR — A Coed Slow Pitch Softball Tournament will be held July 21 & 22.

Entry fee is \$125 plus 2 Blue Dot balls and deadline to enter is July 15. Church teams encouraged to enter. Teams will consist of 12 players, six men and 4 woman field. Rosters will be due before first game.

For more information, contact Rick at (918) 652-2756 or (918) 650-0138 and Kim at (918) 652-3182 or (918) 652-8563.

Indian Falls Creek

DAVIS — Indian Falls Creek 2006 will be held July 31 through August 4. This year’s theme will be “All things are possible.”

The camp preacher for morning service will be Waylon Bailey, Pastor of 1st Baptist Church of Covington, Louisiana and evening service preacher will be Dr. Robert Smith Jr., Professor of Preaching of Beeson Divinity Schoop, Samford University of Birmingham, Alabama.

The worship team director will be Jesse Hernandez, 1st Baptist Church of Shawnee, Oklahoma. The Children’s Church Director will be “Tricky Ricky” Henson, Evangelist of Jonesboro, Georgia.

For more information, contact Victor Cope, IFC Executive Director at (405) 598-8720.

Okmulgee Catholic Youth Organization Fund Raiser

OKMULGEE — Save your inactive cell phones and empty inkjet cartridges. Help save the earth and help the youth at the same time. Cell phones and ink cartridges may be dropped off at the Creek Nation Communications Department or St. Anthony Church. All funds will help the Okmulgee Catholic Youth Organization with their area service projects. You can also recycle your newspapers, magazines, etc. at St. Anthony Church in the green bin located at the back of the church.

For more information, call Dan Beasley, Okmulgee Catholic Youth Organization Coordinator at (918) 510-2996.



BIRTHS

April Oskee Barnett

TULSA — April Oskee Barnett was born April 29 at St. Francis Hospital to Stephanie Good Voice and Roger Barnett. She weighed 6 pounds and 5 ounces and was 18 1/2 in length. Maternal grandparents are Sally Good Voice and the late Kenneth Good Voice of Okmulgee. Paternal grandparents are Rachel Barnett and the late Joseph Barnett of Bristow. April has one sister, Chenoa and brother, Eco.



Trinity Leigh Friday

KILLEEN, Texas — Trinity Leigh Friday was born on March 25 to Leigh Friday of Tulsa. She is the granddaughter of Viola Todd and the late Jimmy Friday Sr. of Boynton. Trinity is the great granddaughter of Bennie and Josephine Friday of Boynton.



MUSCOGEEPEOPLE

Timothy Morgan

HOLDENVILLE — Timothy Morgan has signed a letter of intent to play football for Haskell Indian Nation University for the 2006 fall semester. He is the son of Maurice and Esther Morgan. He attended Holdenville school for 13 years. He is a four-year starter for the Holdenville Wolverines. Tim received player of the week and rushed for over 1000 yards for the 2005 season. He was selected to play in the 2006 Native All-Star game held in Lawton. He is the grandson of the late Lloyd Lowe and Katherine Summerfield Lowe and Zelda Morgan of Holdenville and the late Edward Morgan. Morgan is a member of the First Indian Baptist Church of Holdenville.



Photo by: Bob Melton, Holdenville News

ACCOMPLISHMENT

Brittany DeAnn Foster

KELLYVILLE — Brittany DeAnn Foster a fifth grader at Kellyville Upper Elementary was placed on the honor roll for the 2005-06 school year. She received many certificates from school and a trip to Bell’s amusement park. She participated in softball and basketball. She is the daughter of David Foster of Sapulpa and Georgie McNac of Kellyville. Brittany is the granddaughter of Dan and Brenda Foster of Kellyville and Alan and Betty Pulver of Sapulpa.



Arianna Maelyn Osborne

OKEMAH — Arianna Maelyn Osborne of Bristow was crowned Little Miss Pioneer Day Princess. Arianna celebrated her second birthday on May 26 with a Dora the Explorer theme and a cookout at the park with family and friends. Grandparents are Simmer and Sharon Hicks of Okemah and Marilyn Stanfill of Scranton, Arkansas. Great grandparents are Thomas and Etleen Harjo of Oklahoma City and Bill O’Quinn of Scranton, Arkansas and Mary O’Quinn of Eupora, Mississippi and the late Joe and Lorene Hicks. She belongs to the wind clan and the Okfuskee ceremonial ground.



ANNIVERSARY

Jake and Liz Bruner

LAMAR — Jake and Liz Bruner of Wetumka celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on April 1. They were honored with a buffet dinner reception held at Middle Creek #1 Baptist church. This special event was hosted by relatives. Their children, friends and family were in attendance for this joyous occasion.



SENIOR HIGHLIGHTS

**Kelly Beck**  
**School:** Morris High School  
**Clan:** Wind  
**Tribal Town:** Okmulgee  
**Parents:** Louise Edmerson  
**Grandparents:** Ethel Edmerson  
**Plans:** Attend OSU-Okmulgee to get an associates degree in nursing.



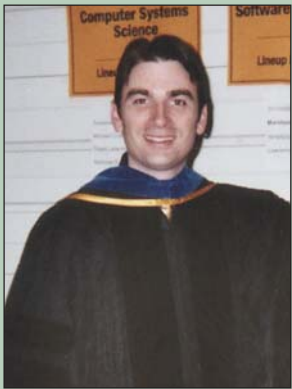
**Chad Deere**  
**School:** Eufaula Public School  
**Parents:** David and Charlene Deere  
**Grandparents:** the late Judson Deere & Nancy Deere, the late Sam Beaver & Wanda Buckley  
**Awards:** class clown, Who’s Who Among American students, most improve player in baseball  
**Activities:** football, basketball, and baseball  
**Plans:** attend college



**Jacob M. Bible**  
**School:** Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Weatherford  
**Parents:** Matthew C. Bible and Janet T. Mayfield  
**Grandparents:** Gene Bible and the late Sue Ann Bible and Jim and Betty Holloway  
**Activities:** football and student council for exceptional children  
**Plans:** teach and coach football at the high school level



**Dr. Stephen George Luckey Jr., Ph. D.**  
**School:** Michigan Technological University, Houghton, Michigan  
**Clan:** Wind  
**Family:** wife, Amy Jo and daughters Jillian and Madelyn  
**Parents:** Stephen and Dolly Luckey of Mounds  
**Grandparents:** Joe Joen Edward of Coweta, the late Margaret Edwards of Bixby, Medford and Lillie Luckey of Calvin  
**Plans:** Currently employed by the Ford Motor Company in Dearborn, Michigan



**Janice Marie Birdcreek**  
**School:** Seminole State College with an associates in child development  
**Parents:** Wallace and Elouise Johnson  
**Family:** husband, Roger and son, Emery  
**Plans:** currently employed with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Headstart program as the Health/Mental Health Coordinator. Plans to continue her education at Bacone for the fall semester



**Natalie McClain**  
**School:** Konawa High School  
**Parents:** Serena Alexander and Dennis McClain  
**Grandparents:** Les and Salina Alexander  
**Awards:** beta club, FCCLA, student council, principal’s honor roll  
**Activities:** fast pitch softball and basketball  
**Plans:** attend ECU and major in nursing



**Jayne Nicole Chuckluck**  
**School:** Commerce High School  
**Parents:** Greg & Felicia Chuckluck  
**Grandparents:** Felix and Gloria Haynes and Bridge and Lynn Chuckluck  
**Awards:** honorable mention for all conference for softball  
**Activities:** softball, spanish club, FCLA, science club, band for two years, coached an 8 & under girls softball team  
**Plans:** to attend NEO-Miami and is currently employed with McDonald’s and Dollar General.



**Richard Simpson Ray**  
**School:** Citadel, the Military college of South Carolina with a Bachelor’s Degree of Art in English  
**Parents:** Mr. and Mrs. Paul W. Ray, Jr.  
**Grandparents:** Wayne Ray and the late Helen Ray, Great Grandparents: the late Simpson and Gladys Wilson and the late Rufus and Maud Ray  
**Awards:** Navy ROTC scholarship, Capt. Carl H. Josephson Navy Memorial Sword





# Native Veteran remembered and honored

*"Hatak would make the big decision to join the military, he always felt it would be a part of his life, but not exactly when. Hatak chose the Marines because as family members say "he was influenced by past veterans and warriors."*

By **GERALD WOFFORD**  
MNN Staff Writer

OKMULGEE — From time to time, the ultimate sacrifice is called upon Native American Veterans serving in the military. The loss of a young life is gone forever, but the veteran's status becomes legendary and his life honorably remembered. Since the beginning of recorded history, conflicts have faced men, exploits are shared and remembered of great soldiers giving their all for a belief they strongly hold to. For many tribes, the act of 'counting coup' was the highest honor and stories were shared of tribes in battle and young men earning the title of 'Warrior'.

In these modern times, it is not just the male who earns the title of warrior, but women such as Hopi Tribal member



Lori Piestewa who also fought and died for her country. Stories will always be told of brave warriors fighting in places such as Battan, Hamburger Hill, Horse-shoe Bend, Somme-and also in Iraq.

As the conflict in Iraq increases so do those odds of young warriors not returning home to a warm home, a good meal and a loving family.

On May 14 of this year, Lance Corporal Hatak Yearby was killed while serving in Iraq. Hatak (pronounced 'HATAKE'), along with Lance Corporal Jose S. Martin Dominguez, Jr. of Liberal, Kansas died when the military vehicle they were riding in struck a mine. The young soldiers were conducting combat operations in the Al Anbar Province.

Hatak was a 2003 graduate of Marietta High School. While there, he excelled in the game of football and showed his warrior ability at an early age.

Hatak, who was of Creek, Seminole, and Choctaw descent was a young man who was always willing to perform his responsibilities when called upon. Family members say that Hatak was always appreciative of his "Native Warrior" heritage and knew that the total warrior not only fought on the field of battle,

but was also the total warrior in every area of his life. That's why when High School was over, Hatak knew there were more of life's battles to be fought, more life wars to be won.

What was also a major part of his connection to his warrior heritage was at a young age, he would accompany his father, Justin, to ceremonial dances and would watch how the young and old soldiers were honored before and after the ceremonies. How those who gave their lives, those who fought and defended their fellow man were revered, and how a victory song was even sung in different languages for the soldiers. The experiences would greatly influence the young Indian boy who began to see a part of his destiny being shaped.

Hatak liked to Powwow dance and was quite good at it. Competing in contests while dressed in his 'rig', Hatak would win many awards for his talent. His other skills shone in the press as well. Hatak appeared on a magazine for *Upward Bound*, a program that provides opportunities for participants to succeed in pre-college performance and ultimately in higher education pursuits. Hatak created a headdress from a T-shirt while also being a participant of the program.

The end of public school also meant the mark for other decisions in his life. After attending Southeastern State University in Durant, Hatak would make the big decision to join the military, he always felt it would be a part of his life, but didn't know when. Hatak chose the Marines, because as family members say "he was influenced by past veterans and warriors."

But, Hatak, whose first name means 'free man' had a big decision to make. One that would fulfill him being a sol-

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**"The very next morning, Hatak immediately got up and told his Mom, Mary not only about his dream, but from that point on, what he knew he had to do."**

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dier in a force that was not actually born of traditional native heritage and didn't adhere to all native rules. Hatak had always taken pride in his appearance of being a Native American Warrior. That was apparent in his long braided hair, a traditional trait that is held with religious regard in so many American Indian societies. This was also one way in which family and friends knew the personality of Hatak, by his long jet black hair. Since he was a child, scissors had never



He touched his hair, but now what would he do? Hatak was fully aware that in order to join a unique fighting force such as the U.S. Marines would eventually mean the loss of his long hair and braids. He knew their would be sacrifices and changes to his life, but now they were staring him right in the face.

But signs and sub-liminal meanings often help Native Americans in reaching important decisions. So it was one evening, that Yearby made up his mind. Yearby had a close friend by the name of Wilson Roberts. Yearby told Roberts about a dream about his braids and how it was important that he lose them by cutting them off. The very next morning, Hatak immediately got up and told his Mom, Mary, not only about the dream, but from that point on, what he knew he had to do. It was December of 2004 now and the family accepted the fact that Hatak, like so many of his relatives before him, would go on and protect his homeland through military service. The end of the year and Christmas Holidays didn't slow down Hatak's decision, the dream confirmed what he felt in his heart and he immediately enlisted with the U.S. Marine Corps. After boot camp, Hatak was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, his military training would be at the Marine Corps Base in Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii.

Hatak's mind wasn't all on duty and responsibility though, a young lady by the name of Lindsey Poythress of Ardmore was as well. The couple had been dating for three years now and knew marriage to each other would be a part of their lives one day. But once Hatak had made up his mind that military duty would come and he had officially signed up, he didn't want to wait any longer, so he quickly sped things up, and asked the love of his life for her hand in marriage.

It didn't take her long to say yes,

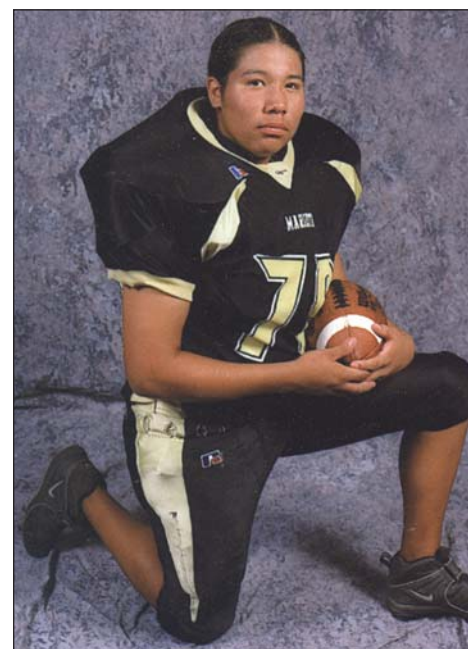
and one fulfillment of his came true. The couple were married on February 10. After his tour of duty would be over, Hatak and Lindsey looked to many long years together.

But the life of a serviceman was fast approaching and soon he would say goodbye to Lindsey, powwow dancing, good Indian jokes and supportive family and friends. But not without one last happytime-the day of his birthday. The next day, he would leave for Iraq.

Hatak would find the rigors of military service tough, but he was up to the challenge. The warm winds and tropic sun of the Hawai-

ian islands where he was stationed didn't soften the physical regimen he endured. Besides, after it was over, Hatak was a full-pledged Marine now.

Millions of American men and women have served their country admirably, many of them never have to face combat duty during their time of service. Others, who volunteered or were drafted served when the country was in 'peacetime' and never had to shoot a gun at another human being. That does not make their service and duty any less important. Only by the fates, grace of God, or just plain luck, they did not have to face such hostile forces. But others like Hatak did, and it is with this tribute we give thanks to a young Indian Marine who knew that a conflict in a foreign country was already taking place and made the decision anyway to step forward and serve his country. Other U.S. military casualties have happened since May 14, and many more will occur, and many of them will be Native American. So *myto* to all who serve! If you would like to donate to the Hatak Yearby Memorial Endowed Scholarship fund, please mail donation to: Southeastern Foundation 1405 N. 4th Avenue, PMB 4187 Durant, Oklahoma 74701-9905. (If paying by check, write in memo area: Hatak Yearby Scholarship) Thank you from the Yearby family.



Better Times-Hatak Yearby, fourth from right, with fellow powwow dancers at the 2004 Tulsa Powwow.



Session

continued from A3

TION ESTABLISHING MCNCA TITLE 41, CHAPTER 1, ENTITLED “BISON HERD MANAGEMENT;” PROVIDING AUTHORITY FOR DISPOSITION OF BISON HERD STOCK AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BISON HERD MANAGEMENT PLAN SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE** (\$1,000.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **THOMAS McINTOSH**, MCINTOSH DISTRICT; **TRAVIS SCOTT**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; **LENA WIND**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; **BILL FIFE**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; AND **KEEPER JOHNSON**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-086**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW BRUSH TRUCK AND NECESSARY EQUIPMENT FOR THE OLIVE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT SPONSOR: **DUKE HARJO** (\$56,935.00)
- APPROVED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-089**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REVISING THE 2003 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN AS APPROVED BY NCA 02-123, AS AMENDED BY NCA 04-150 AND NCA 05-281, TO ALLOW FOR CHANGES IN GOALS AND TO ADD AN AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAM SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**; CO-SPONSOR: **ROBERT JONES**
- APPROVED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-090**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REVISING THE 2001 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN AS APPROVED BY NCA 01-090, AS AMENDED BY NCA 03-061 SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**
- APPROVED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-091**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE LITTLE CUSSETAH INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH OF SAPULPA, OKLAHOMA FOR A 12-PASSENGER VAN SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON** (\$26,788.00) CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL TO ADD REPRESENTATIVE **LENA WIND** AS CO-SPONSOR
- APPROVED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-093**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REVISING THE 2002 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN AS APPROVED BY NCA 02-098, TO ALLOW FOR CHANGES IN GOALS AND ADDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING ACTIVITIES SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**
- RETURN TO COMMITTEE (21-2-0) **NCA 06-096**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH FOR THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION FARM OPERATION FISCAL YEAR 2006 OPERATING BUDGET SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE** (\$169,814.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **EDDIE LAGRONE**, MUSKGOGEE DISTRICT AND **SYLVANNA CALDWELL**, TUKVPTCE DISTRICT;

  - APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-097**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE HANNA INDIAN COMMUNITY FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 12-PASSENGER VAN SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON** (\$29,000.00)
  - APPROVED AS AMENDED (21-2-0) **NCA 06-098**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2006 BUDGET SPONSOR: **PETE BEAVER**; CO-SPONSOR: **JOHNNIE GREENE** (\$65,262.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **JEFF FIFE**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT AND **RON CLEGHORN**, TULSA DISTRICT;

REPRESENTATIVE **PAULA WILLITS** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

    - APPROVED (22-0-0) **NCA 06-100**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 05-284 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO PURCHASE PASSENGER VANS FOR THE DEWAR, TWIN HILLS, WILSON, TULSA AND WETUMKA CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY CENTERS TO PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION FOR CREEK ELDERS AND OTHER COMMUNITY MEMBERS) SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**; CO-SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO**

REPRESENTATIVE **PAULA WILLITS** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

    - APPROVED (22-0-0) **NCA 06-101**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 05-248 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE 24 MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CHARTERED COMMUNITIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENHANCING AND ENRICHING THE 2005 CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES FOR CITIZENS) SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**; CO-SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO**
    - APPROVED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-103**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-029 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AU-

THORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM FOR THE PURCHASE OF ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS FOR CREEK CITIZENS WHO ARE DIABETIC) SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON**

- RETURN TO COMMITTEE (19-4-0)

**NCA 06-106**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 22, 4-102, 104, 106, 108, 109, 110 AND 111 TO RE-ASSIGN THE AUTHORITY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING FROM THE DIVISION OF HEALTH ADMINISTRATION TO THE CONTROLLER’S OFFICE WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE**

VOTING NO WERE: **KEEPER JOHNSON**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **BO JOHNSON**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **SHIRLENE ADE**, TUKVPTCE DISTRIC; AND **RICHARD BERRYHILL**, WAGONER DISTRICT;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-107**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE BUCKEYE CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH OF OKEMAH, OKLAHOMA FOR A 15-PASSENGER VAN SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT** (\$28,165.65)
- APPROVED (21-2-0) **NCA 06-108**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 30, CHAPTER 1, “LEGISLATION”, AS AMENDED BY NCA 03-192 AND NCA 04-159, TO PROVIDE FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF ADDITIONAL CODE BOOK SETS, POCKET PART UPDATES, AND SUPPLEMENTS TO OFFICIALS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO**
- APPROVED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-109**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MYSKOKE LANGUAGE PROGRAM THROUGH THE DIVISION OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT SPONSOR: **THOMAS YAHOLA**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **JAMES JENNINGS** (\$224,297.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **LENA WIND** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

  - APPROVED (22-0-0) **NCA 06-110**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-151 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE HOLDENVILLE INDIAN COMMUNITY CASINO PROJECT) TO AUTHORIZE SPECIFIC CONTRACTS TO BE SOLE-SOURCED TO SELECTED CONTRACTORS SPONSOR: **THOMAS YAHOLA**

REPRESENTATIVE **LENA WIND** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

  - APPROVED (22-0-0) **NCA 06-111**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET MODIFICATION IN EXCESS OF 10% FOR THE NATURAL RESOURCES FISCAL YEAR 2006 BUDGET SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**

REPRESENTATIVE **LENA WIND** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

  - APPROVED (22-0-0) **NCA 06-112**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE FY 2006 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**

REPRESENTATIVE **LENA WIND** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

  - APPROVED (22-0-0) **NCA 06-113**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO PROVIDE 300 CUSTOM MADE SERVICE BRANCH VESTS FOR MUSCOGEE VETERANS SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **K. JOHNSON**; **T. PICKERING**; **B. JOHNSON**; **R. JONES**; **T. YAHOLA**; **C. QUIETT**; **P. BEAVER**; **S. ALEXANDER**; **J. GREENE**; **G. TIGER**; **R. BARNETT**; **S. ADE**; **L. BIBLE**; **D. HARJO** (\$20,000.00)
  - DIED FOR LACK OF A MOTION, **NCA 06-114**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM TO ASSIST WITH FUNDING THE DIABETES WALKING PROGRAM SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING** (\$53,536.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **LENA WIND** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

  - **FAILED (9-14-0) NCA 06-115**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN FOR A MISSION TRIP TO INDIA SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON** (\$4,500.00)
  - **POSTPONED (23-0-0) NCA 06-116**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MORRIS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A RADIO REPEATER SYSTEM AND A 200 GALLON PORTABLE DUMP TANK SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON** (\$3,500.00)
  - **APPROVED (17-6-0) NCA 06-117**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NA-

TION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE TWIN HILLS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A PORTABLE 32-CHANNEL RADIO SYSTEM WITH PAGING CAPABILITY SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON** (\$3,500.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **EDDIE LAGRONE**, MUSKOGEE DISTRICT; **TRAVIS SCOTT**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; **BILL FIFE**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; **JEFF FIFE**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **THOMAS YAHOLA**, TUKVPTCE DISTRICT; AND **RON CLEGHORN**, TULSA DISTRICT;

- **POSTPONED (23-0-0) NCA 06-118** A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE TWIN HILLS INDIAN COMMUNITY TO PURCHASE A COMPUTER-TO-TELEVISION INTERFACE FOR INTERNET MONITORING FOR THE PURPOSE OF ALLOWING CITIZENS TO VIEW MEETINGS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON** (\$759.40)
- **APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 06-119**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE SUPREME COURT FOR THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION CLERK AND RECEPTIONIST SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** (\$21,215.00)
- **APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 06-120**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION COMMISSIONERS’ TRAVEL AND MILEAGE SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** (\$10,000.00)
- **APPROVED (21-2-0) NCA 06-122**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST AN ENROLLED MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **S. ALEXANDER**; **C. QUIETT**; **R. CLEGHORN** (\$2,500.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **RICHARD BERRYHILL**, WAGONER DISTRICT AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**, WAGONER DISTRICT.

**MAY 30, EMERGENCY SESSION**

REPRESENTATIVES EXCUSED ARE: **LARRY BIBLE**, **ANTHONY NOTARO** AND **TOM PICKERING** EXCUSED AT HIS DISCRETION.

SPEAKER **GEORGE TIGER**, CREEK DISTRICT, CONDUCTED THE MEETING AND DID NOT VOTE.

IN ORDER OF BUSINESS:

  - APPROVED (22-0-0) **TR 06-081**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT LEASE FOR REAL PROPERTY WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HEALTH FACILITY SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING**
  - APPROVED (22-0-0) **TR 06-084**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE THE TEMPORARY OPERATING PERMITS WITH JAKE’S FIREWORKS, INC. FOR THE OPERATION OF ONE TEMPORARY FIREWORKS SALES FACILITY ON TRIBAL TRUST LAND TO BENEFIT THE TULSA CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY SPONSOR: **RON CLEGHORN**;
  - APPROVED (22-0-0) **TR 06-085**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE THE AMENDMENT TWO TO CONSTRUCTION LOAN AGREEMENT WITH JPMORGAN CHASE, N.A. REGARDING THE KOWETA INDIAN HEALTHCARE FACILITY SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING**;

REPRESENTATIVE **TOM PICKERING** EXCUSED. THEREFORE, TWENTY-TWO PRESENT AND FOUR ABSENT;

    - APPROVED (21-0-0) **TR 06-086**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SUPPORTING THE NATIVE VOTE UNITED TO ENCOURAGE VOTER PARTICIPATION AT THE LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL LEVEL SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER**;
    - APPROVED (20-1-0) **NCA 06-130**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING LOCATED AT THE OMNIPLEX SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** (\$1,500,000.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **JEFF FIFE**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT;

REPRESENTATIVE **CHERRAH QUIETT** ARRIVED. THEREFORE, TWENTY-THREE PRESENT AND THREE

ABSENT.

**JUNE 15, EMERGENCY SESSION**

REPRESENTATIVES EXCUSED ARE: **LARRY BIBLE**, **BILL FIFE** AND **LENA WIND**.

ABSENT WERE: **LENA WIND**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; **BILL FIFE**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; **ROBERT JONES**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **LARRY BIBLE**, TULSA DISTRICT;

SPEAKER **GEORGE TIGER**, CREEK DISTRICT, CONDUCTED THE MEETING AND DID NOT VOTE.

IN ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED (21-0-0) **TR 06-087**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A TEMPORARY OPERATING PERMIT WITH AMERICAN PROMOTIONAL EVENTS, INC., FOR THE OPERATION OF ONE TEMPORARY FIREWORKS SALES FACILITY ON TRIBAL TRUST LAND TO BENEFIT THE GLENPOOL CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY SPONSOR: **RON CLEGHORN**; CO-SPONSOR: **S. ALEXANDER**;

SPEAKER **GEORGE TIGER** RELINQUISHED THE CHAIR TO SECOND SPEAKER **ROGER BARNETT** TO ADDRESS NCA 06-132.

  - APPROVED (16-4-1) **NCA 06-132**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ENACTING A LIQUOR AND BEVERAGE CODE AND CODIFYING SAID LAW IN TITLE 36, “TAXATION AND REVENUE,” OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER**

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING**, MCINTOSH DISTRICT; **KEEPER JOHNSON**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **THOMAS YAHOLA**, TUKVPTCE DISTRICT; **RICHARD BERRYHILL**, WAGONER;

ABSTAIN WERE: **EDDIE LAGRONE**, MUSKOGEE DISTRICT;

    - APPROVED (16-4-1) **NCA 06-134**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CODE ANNOTATED TITLE 21, “GAMING,” CHAPTER 5, “RULES OF OPERATION AND GENERAL APPLICABILITY,” TO ALLOW FOR THE SALE AND CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AT GAMING FACILITIES APPROVED BY THE NATIONAL COUNCIL AND DULY LICENSED BY THE TAX COMMISSION SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER**

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING**, MCINTOSH DISTRICT; **KEEPER JOHNSON**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **THOMAS YAHOLA**, TUKVPTCE DISTRICT; **RICHARD BERRYHILL**, WAGONER DISTRICT;

ABSTAIN WERE: **EDDIE LAGRONE**, MUSKOGEE DISTRICT;

      - APPROVED (16-4-1) **NCA 06-136**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CODE ANNOTATED TITLE 14, “CRIME AND PUNISHMENT,” CHAPTER 2, “CRIMINAL OFFENSES,” SUBCHAPTER 7, “CRIMES AGAINST PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY,” TO AUTHORIZE THE SALE OF LIQUOR AND/OR BEER WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER**

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING**, MCINTOSH DISTRICT; **KEEPER JOHNSON**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **THOMAS YAHOLA**, TUKVPTCE DISTRICT; **RICHARD BERRYHILL**, WAGONER DISTRICT;

ABSTAIN WERE: **EDDIE LAGRONE**, MUSKOGEE DISTRICT;

SECOND SPEAKER **ROGER BARNETT** TURNED THE CHAIR BACK OVER TO SPEAKER **GEORGE TIGER**.

        - APPROVED AS AMENDED (21-0-0) **NCA 06-155**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH FISCAL YEAR 2006 BUDGET SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** (\$113,643.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **THOMAS YAHOLA**, TUKVPTCE DISTRICT.



CLINT HAWKINS

AMARILLO, Texas — Funeral services for Clint C. Hawkins were held June 17 at The Church at Quail Creek with Rev. Dale Moreland officiating.

He was born June 20, 1955, in Okemah to Jess and Leah Hawkins.

Hawkins was a graduate of Palo Duro High School.

He married the former Juanita Avila on June 18, 1983, in Amarillo.

Clint loved sports, softball was one of his favorites. He played for many years.

He worked for Kast Marble and Amarillo Marble before becoming ill.

Preceding him in death was his parents and six brothers.

Survivors include: his wife of Amarillo; six sisters, Ann Van Damme, Winnie Woods, both of Amarillo, Jean Gallagher of Altus, June Babb of El Cajon, California, Sarah Behling of San Benito and Louise Marris of Gatesville; and a host of nephews, nieces and friends.

MARTHA PHILLIPS

EUFULA — Funeral services for Martha Francis Phillips were held June 24 at Gregg Funeral Home Chapel with Rueben Kelly officiating.

She was born September 30, 1923 to the late Thomas Francis and Christie Charity (Charles) Francis in Eufaula.

Martha attended school at Deeres Chapel and graduated from the eighth grade. Following school she held various jobs until her marriage to William “Willie” Phillips on June 10, 1951.

She worked at the Ammunition plant in McAlester for a short time and later worked for Creek Nation Head Start as a cook until

retirement in the late 80’s. She was also a caregiver for the Creek Nation.

Martha loved quilt making and giving them as gifts to her family and friends. Sewing and collecting turtles were some of her favorite hobbies. Martha was a member of the Artussee Indian Baptist church and was active in the Eufaula Indian Community.



Phillips

Preceding her in death was: her husband; parents; two sons, Thomas Phillips and William Phillips Jr.; daughter, Patricia East; ten siblings, Wadie, David and July Francis, Mattie Fields, Polly Marshall, Betty McGirt, Irene Cricklin, Robert, Nina and Lily Francis.

Survivors include: five sons, Raymond Tiger of Eufaula, Bill Phillips of Muskogee, Anthony and Adam East of Oklahoma City and Matthew Phillips of Eufaula; daughters, Anna King of Tulsa, Alice Osborn of Okay, Rosemary of Kansas City, Missouri, Stephanie Williams of Oklahoma City and brother William Francis of Kansas City, Missouri.

Pallbearers were: Francis and Jackie Lewis, Joe McGirt, Robert Francis, Steve Marshall and William Jesse Phillips.

Honorary pallbearers included: Anthony and Adam East, Sam Marshall, Charlie

Dowling and Elliot Fields.

Interment was at the Charles Family Cemetery.

SHARON SMITH

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services for Sharon Kay Smith were held June 3 at Middle Creek Indian Baptist Church #1 with Rev. Don Tiger and Duane Wesley officiating.

She was born January 24, 1958 in Wetumka to Rev. James Wesley and Minnie Yargee Wesley.

Sharon was raised in Wetumka and attended Central Grade School and Wetumka Junior High and High School, graduating in 1976. She later attended Tulsa Job Corps and graduated in 1978. She professed faith in Jesus Christ and was baptized by her father on August 17, 1969.

On April 23, 1982, she was married to Mark Smith. She was a women’s leader at Middle Creek Indian Baptist Church #1 and was very active in church affairs. Smith served as Sunday School teacher and song leader and was often asked to sing special music at other churches in the area. She had also participated on several mission trips with the MSW Association. She loved butterflies and hummingbirds and would always set out feeders and plant flowers.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Survivors include: her husband, Mark of the home; three children, Ashley, Aston and Matthew of the home; three brothers, Gary Wesley of Oklahoma City, Lowell Wesley of Wetumka and Leo Wesley of Arlington, Texas; sister, Geraldine Harjo of Dallas; along with several aunts, uncles, cousins,

nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

Pallbearers were: Roley McIntosh; Larry Morrow; Myron Sekayouma; Lymon Yargee; James Scott and Mike Smith.

Honorary pallbearers were: Duane, Todd and Aaron Wesley and Tim and Billy Ray Smith.

Interment was at the Carson Cemetery.

WILLIAM TIGER

HONOLULU — Funeral services for William Merle Tiger were held June 4.

He was born October 17, 1940 in Wagoner, Oklahoma to Andrew J. Tiger and Mary Ruth Page Tiger.



Tiger

William graduated from Armijo High School in Fairfield, California. In 1963, after three years in the Navy, he moved to Hawaii and met his wife, Mary Kehaulani. He owned and operated “Tiger Hawaii” for more than 12 years.

He helped form the Intertribal Council of Hawaii. They hosted an annual powwow, holiday party in December and numerous educational presentations throughout the year.

He is survived by: his wife; two children and three grandchildren.

June District Court filings

Civil:

- Security Finance v. Rochelle Hicks Small Claims
- In the Matter of: Sarah Aline Chubbee now McClour Determination of Paternity
- Janice Lee and Kelly Ashford v. MCN Health EPC
- Community Hospital Lakeview v. Linda Casey Small Claims
- Security Finance v. Christine Kaler Small Claims
- Community Hospital Lakeview v. Robin & or Steven Salmans Small Claims
- Terry Thompson v. MCN Office of Public Gaming Petition

Divorce:

- Melissa Rider v. Michael Rider
- Marva A. Proctor v. Brian M. Proctor
- Gwen Taylor v. Joe Robert Taylor
- Rose Vance v. Roger Vance

Family Domestic:

- Tribal Child Support Services, Kimberly Sue Wheeler Shed v. Richard Pangle Child Support

Criminal Felony:

- MCN v. Jonathan McCurry Ct. 1 Poss. of Firearm After a Former Conviction
- MCN v. Addy Topping Ct. 1 Poss. of Firearm In or About the Creek Nation
- MCN v. Charles Studie Ct. 1&2 Aggravated Battery Ct. 3 Poss. of Drugs w/intent Ct. 4 Poss. of Drug Para.
- MCN v. Jess Bell Ct. 1 Receiving Stolen Property Ct. 2 Poss. of Illegal Drugs
- MCN v. Bobby McNutt Ct. 1 Poss. of Stolen Property Ct. 2 Poss. of Illegal Drugs Ct. 3 Poss. of Drug Para.
- MCN v. Michelle Bagby Ct. 1 Poss. of Illegal Drugs Ct. 2 Poss. of Drug Para.

Traffic:

- MCN v. Karen Rowan Failure to wear Safety Belt
- MCN v. Phillip Lieberman Poss. of Illegal Drug
- MCN v. Robin Nelson Invalid Drivers License
- MCN v. Jennifer Barns Invalid Drivers License
- MCN v. John Booker Invalid Drivers License
- MCN v. John Booker No Insurance
- MCN v. Curtis Lawson Driving Under Suspension
- MCN v. Curtis Lawson No Insurance
- MCN v. Curtis Lawson

Driving w/o Required Registration

- MCN v. Judy Hammer No Insurance
- MCN v. Georgia McKee Poss. of Illegal Drugs
- MCN v. Georgia McKee Poss. of Drug Para.
- MCN v. Christie Epperson Poss. of Illegal Drugs w/Intent to Distribute
- MCN v. Christie Epperson Poss. Of Illegal Drug Para.
- MCN v. Christie Epperson Carrying Weapons in or about Bldgs. On Tribal Land
- MCN v. Tony Basore Disorderly Conduct
- MCN v. James Wright Failure to Wear Seat Belt
- MCN v. Donald Weaver Poss. Of Alcohol on Tribal Land
- MCN v. Crystal Young Expired Tag
- MCN v. Nita Guthery Disorderly Conduct
- MCN v. Nita Guthery Disorderly Conduct
- MCN v. Sarah Stroble Driving w/o License
- MCN v. Sarah Stroble No Valid Insurance
- MCN v. Johnny Camacho No Drivers License
- MCN v. Johnny Camacho No Insurance
- MCN v. Nicole Bolles Poss. of Illegal Drug
- MCN v. Nicole Bolles Poss. Of Illegal Drug Para.
- MCN v. Jennifer Sutton Poss. of Illegal Drugs
- MCN v. Jennifer Sutton Poss. of Illegal Drug Para.
- MCN v. Jennifer Sutton Poss. of Alcohol on Tribal Land

Legal Notices

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF: C.B. D.R., D.R. and C.R. Deprived Children Case No. JV-2004-13

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO: Tallo Williams, Ray Williams, Kevin Barnes and Jared Black

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Motion to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 22nd day of August, 2006 at 9:00 A.M.

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the Children and Family Services

Administration for continued foster placement or possible pre-adoptive placement.

YOU ARE FURTHER INFORMED that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

I have hereunto set my hand this 22nd day of June, 2006.

/s/ Patrick E. Moore District Court Judge

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE CREEK NATION OKMULGEE DISTRICT

Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Plaintiff vs. 1994 Honda Accord VIN #1HBCB7146MA002452 CASE NO: CV-2006-06

NOTICE OF SEIZURE AND INTENDED FORFEITURE

The MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION: Cynthia Fultz-Tottress, 2610 E. 88th Street, Apt. 8, Tulsa, OK 74137, Julius Ball, 1316 N. Boston Ave., Tulsa, OK 74105 and Nick “Neno” Williams, 13119 E. 29th Street, Tulsa, OK 74134 and all others claiming an interest in the above described property.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has seized and intends to forfeit the above described property under the provisions of MCNCA Title 22 § 2-102, et seq.

Said vehicle was seized on or about the 10th day of November, 2004, from said Julius Ball and forfeiture is sought for the reasons that said was used for the purpose of distributing illegal drugs and the illegal drugs were unlawfully possessed by an occupant thereof;

The owner, claimant or other party in interest may file a verified answer and claim to the above named property within forty-five days of notice after which time the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will move the Court for an Order of Forfeiture for said property.

Respectfully submitted, /s/ Shannon Cozzoni, MCN #181 PO Box 580 Okmulgee, OK 74447

BEFORE THE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF OKLAHOMA APPLICANT: LANCE RUFFEL OIL & GAS CORPORATION, RELIEF REQUESTED: POOLING CAUSE CD NO. 200605562 LEGAL DESCRIPTION: SE/4 NW/4 OF SECTION 28, TOWNSHIP 8 NORTH, RANGE 8 EAST, SEMINOLE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA,

NOTICE

STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

To: William Frank McDonnell, formerly Johnson, Eddie Wayne McDonnell, Randy McGirt, Sally McGirt, Anita Lynne McDonnell Thomson, formerly Johnson, Superintendent Okmulgee Agency, Musco-

gee (Creek) Nation Realty/Trust Services Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Eastern Oklahoma Regional Office, Division of Real Estate Services, Branch of Subsurface Leasing; and all persons, owners, producers, operators, purchasers and takers of oil and gas, and if any of the above are deceased or any named individuals or companies are no longer in existence, then the unknown successors of said deceased individuals and defunct companies, and all other interested persons, particularly in Seminole County, Oklahoma.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Applicant in this cause is requesting that the Corporation Commission issue an order pursuant to Title 52, Oklahoma Statutes, 1971, Section 87.1, adjudicating the rights and equities and pooling all interests of all owners in the Booch, Hartshorne, Gilcrease, Cromwell, Misener, Hunton, First Wilcox and Second Wilcox separate common sources of supply, being a 40 acre drilling and spacing unit underlying the SE/4 NW/4 of Section 28, Township 8 North, Range 8 East, Seminole County, Oklahoma, as established by Oklahoma Corporation Commission Order to be issued in Cause CD No. 200605561, set to be heard by the Oklahoma Corporation Commission on the 25th day of July, 2006.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Applicant in this cause is requesting the following special relief: Applicant will designate itself or some other party as Operator of the unit and test well and requests that such order provide a period of one year from the date of the order for said operator to commence operations for the drilling of the proposed well.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this cause be set before an Administrative Law Judge for hearing, taking of evidence and reporting to the Commission.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this cause will be heard before an Administrative Law Judge on the Initial Hearing Docket at the Corporation Commission, First Floor, Jim Thorpe Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, at 8:30 a.m., on the 25th day of July, 2006, and that this notice be published as required by law and the rules of the Commission.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the applicant and interested parties may present testimony by telephone. The cost of telephonic communication shall be paid by the person or persons requesting its use. Interested parties who wish to participate by telephone shall contact Applicant or Applicant’s attorney, prior to the hearing date, and provide their name and phone number.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that all interested persons may appear and be heard. For information concerning this action, contact Diane Moershel, Attorney, 120 N. Robinson, Suite 2109, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102, (405) 236-5938.



## HOT CORNER

BY

JASON SALSMAN

What's up everyone! It's July, so swing the bats, light the fireworks, cook the burgers and dogs.....wow, can I fit any more July stereotypes in this first sentence? All kidding aside we have a lot to talk about.

First off soccer's World Cup is wrapping up and Wimbledon tennis is in full swing. You know what, they'll find Jimmy Hoffa before I ever mention those two sports in this column again!

The NBA Finals concluded a sensational playoff season for the NBA. I would be hard pressed to remember a year since the Jordan era that pro basketball's second season was filled with such high drama. There were suspensions, great games, bad officiating, dazzling individual performances....this year's postseason had the works! I have to say Dwayne Wade of the Miami Heat has really taken the torch and left town when it comes to being "the guy." If you do not think that he established himself as THE elite player during the NBA finals against the Dallas Mavericks then you must have been watching a different series. He may not lead the league in scoring every year, but it would be difficult to find a player with more drive and determination to win. He does whatever it takes to win, and that is why he is so fun to watch.

As you may know I am a huge baseball fan, and I take pride in the National League. I think the Senior Circuit is the purest form of baseball there is. Why do I want to go see a designated hitter? Some guy that can't field a position but can swing a bat. Come on, whatever happened to the complete ballplayer, the five-tooler? I mean the greatest slugger that ever played the game, was a pitcher first! BUT, having said that.....I'm a little disappointed with my National Leaguers. They have flat-out stunk up the joint in Interleague play. The American League has not only won the majority of the games, they have absolutely dominated. Only two teams in the National League, the Rockies and Marlins, have winning records. I heard one "analyst" say that it speaks to the existence of more talent in the American League. That's definitely not true, I mean the best player on the planet is in the National League (ahem, St. Louis's Albert Pujols) so there is not a talent gap by any means. I think the National League just needs to man up and start playing better ball. Besides, I'd much rather have a bad Interleague and a good World Series. We'll have to wait and see on that.

The OU baseball team ended their season one game away from the College World Series and officially kicked off football hysteria here in Oklahoma. They have already filmed the entrance videos that will usher the Sooners onto the field this year! You know what they say in these parts, it's never too early to get hyped about Sooner football. I am a little extra excited as the 2006 season draws near. On September 9, yours truly will be in Norman for the game against the University of Washington. And even though I'll be clad in crimson and cream, my job that day will be to swap stories with a Washington legend. You see, back in the old days the reins of the Huskies' offense were in the hands of a hot-shot Native American quarterback with one of college sports' all-time greatest surnames. Sonny Sixkiller will be in town cheering on the Huskies, and I'll be picking his brain about his run and near capture of the Heisman trophy, starring opposite Burt Reynolds in "The Longest Yard," and about the state of Native American athletes in today's sports world. Sixkiller captured the intrigue of the American public back in his playing days at Washington and it will undoubtedly be a great honor to sit down with him and chat.

Just want to let everyone know that the festival didn't kill me. Sure, I ran myself ragged trying to keep up with everything but I managed to sneak in a little softball as well. See you in August, when it will probably be even hotter. I think I'm moving to Alaska!

## "Superchief" Was One of a Kind

By Jason Salsman

MNN Sports Reporter

Over the course of time many Native American athletes have dotted the sports history books with their unforgettable performances.

Jim Thorpe is considered perhaps the greatest athlete of all time, successful at just about every sport he tried. Nobody could forget Billy Mills' historic dash to the front of the pack during the 1964 Olympic Games to claim the 10,000 meter gold medal in what is now simply called "The Kick." And when considering all the great Native athletes and their accomplishments it is impossible to leave out Allie Reynolds.

Reynolds, part Cherokee and Creek, was born and raised in Oklahoma and went on to great fame as a reliable pitcher and reputable teammate for the New York Yankees organization from 1946 to 1954.

He did not start out on the baseball path right away, however, as he went to what is now Oklahoma State on a track scholarship. When his body had built up, he joined the baseball team and went on to have immense success while there. For proof of that, look no further than the current baseball stadium at Oklahoma State University, which is named after him.

Reynolds' first game in the big leagues came with the Cleveland Indians in 1942. Four years later his career would forever change as he was traded to the New York Yankees. In his first year in the Big Apple "Superchief," a nickname given to him by his Yankee teammates, paid immediate dividends for the Bronx Bombers recording the highest winning percentage in the American League that year. In 1950, he shrugged off painful bone spurs in his elbow and still racked up 16 wins. The '51 season might have been the banner year in Reynolds' career. That year he became the first American League pitcher to throw two no-hitters in the same season and he also took home the Hickok Belt, which was given to the top professional athlete of the year.

He did not slow down the next year either, picking up 20 wins and leading the league in strikeouts with 160. He was unlike any other pitcher of his time with his ability to start a game or come in and hold a lead or close it out. It led to high praise from his manager at the time, Casey Stengel. "Reynolds is two ways great, which is starting and relieving, which no one can do like him."

Superchief decided to hang up the cleats in 1954 but not before he had built a tremendously successful career. When it was all said and done Reynolds had made 125 relief appearances and 309 starts, appeared in five All-Star games and won six World Series championships. In his eight seasons with the Yankees, Reynolds won 131 games while losing only 60. To the common eye, those numbers certainly look worthy of Hall of Fame consideration but Reynolds has still not made it to Cooperstown. Many believe Reynolds' relief duties have kept him out of the Hall, restrict-

ing the amount of victories he ended up with. Later in life Superchief offered an explanation to those critical of his

Allie Reynolds Award, which is given annually to "Oklahoma's outstanding high school senior, based on accom-

plishments, sports, civics, character and leadership."

Born in Bethany, Oklahoma as the son of a strict preacher, Allie Reynolds certainly carved out a legacy in this world, battling not only tough hitters throughout his career but diabetes as well. The disease, which Reynolds referred to as "the Indian disease," was an affliction Allie dealt with in the initial stages of his career without anyone knowing that he had it. Reynolds did not use it as an excuse, he just kept pitching. He overcame all obstacles to become a major success story not only in sports, but in life also. His example is one that all Native Americans should be proud to follow.

This was a courageous story of a player who found success even in the face of disease and at a time when Native Americans were not fully accepted. They do not make many Allie Reynolds' these days. This chief was indeed, super.

From the poem "Allie Reynolds" by Bob Palazzo

Allie was Native American  
He was born a preacher's son  
Making it to the majors,  
Was the biggest game he'd won

Note: For more information on Allie Reynolds visit the web at <http://en.wikipedia.org>.




Allie Reynolds with baseball legend Joe DiMaggio

relief work. "My job was to help us win games," he said. "If pitching in relief helped us win, that was fine."

On August 26, 1989, with Yankee teammates Mickey Mantle, Whitey Ford and Phil Rizzuto by his side, Allie perhaps received the greatest honor of his career. A plaque was dedicated to Reynolds that still hangs in Yankee Stadium's historic Monument Park. The plaque refers to the fireballer as "One of the Yankees' greatest right-handed pitchers."

In 1993, he received the Jim Thorpe Lifetime Achievement Award, and a year later on the day after Christmas, he passed away. In his honor, the Jim Thorpe Association established the




# Sapulpa Clinic

Offered to the first 44 athletes

## Sports Physicals

### Wednesday, July 12, 2006

Sapulpa Clinic Will be conducting sports physicals between 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. As a service to our Creek youth who are trying to prepare for the upcoming sports season. For more information contact Ronda Beaver at (918) 224-9310 ext. 241



The Sapulpa Clinic requests any child wanting a sports physical to complete complete the following:

- Establish a Chart from the Sapulpa Clinic
- Obtain sports Physical form from your local school
- A parent must be present at the physical. The above must be completed July 12th. This is important to allow them to process 44 athletes within the 3 hour period. Eye exam, diabetes review and education and other sports related examinations will be



# MUSCOGEE NATION



# FESTIVAL 2006

**Preserving**  
*our*  
**culture**  
*in a*  
**changing**  
**World**





Festival Elderly Activities

ELDER NUTRITION CENTER-Several people turned out for the activities planned for the elders, enjoying company, contests, food and games. The quilt show contest, horseshoe tournament, and 18 games of bingo were among the activities provided during the festival for elders. Original Allottees were honored during these activities as well.



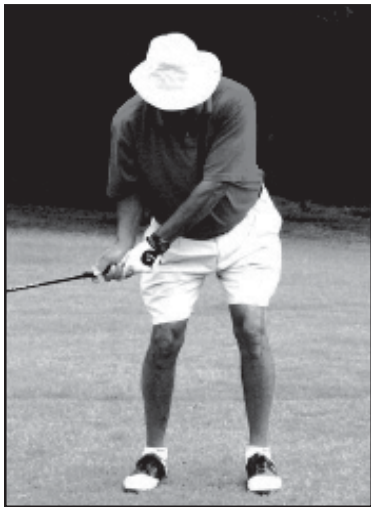
Koweta Clinic Grand Opening



KOWETA- On a beautiful day, described by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis as “one of the most important days for the Nation in many years” the Koweta Indian Health Facility was opened with great fanfare. State officials, tribal dignitaries, National Council members and a host of citizens and employees turned out for the big event. The 60, 000 square ft. facility is a marvel to look at with Native design and Muscogee artifact exhibits lining the hallways. The elegance and first-rate amneties of this building are a testament to the commitment the Creek Nation has to the best Health Care possible.

Golf Tournament

This year’s golf tournament, held again at Fountainhead State Park Golf Course on Lake Eufaula, was a swinging success with even more golfers showing up to test the field. Playing in very toasty conditions the golfers beared down and there were some low rounds turned in. The game of golf is quickly becoming another sport picked up by Native American athletes. With not many Natives represented on pro tours presently it will be interesting to watch the next few years and see if any Native golfers break through. It will be good for not only American Indian people but for the game of golf as well.



Art Festival



CREEK COUNCIL HOUSE MUSEUM-This year’s Art Festival, once again held in downtown Okmulgee at the historic Creek Council House Museum, was again a huge success. Several great Muscogee artists were out

showcasing their latest pieces of work. Just about every category of art was covered this year, ranging for paintings, to a beauty pageant, to music. The morning crowd got a taste of the music scene with Medicine Pony performing live. Many of the artists were showcasing traditional Native jewelry and clothing. With the efforts from the staff at the Council House Museum continuing, the Art Festival should only get better every year.



Entertainment

OMNIPLEX-The Claude Cox Omniplex was rockin Friday night as Charlie Redd and the Full Flava Kings took the stage to open this year’s festival entertainment. Their superb performance was followed by Native American entertainer/actress Irene Bedard and Deni. Then it was time for the headliner as Lou Gramm, lead singer of Foreigner, took the stage serenading the crowd with some familiar hits. The crowd was large and didn’t leave disappointed.



Fast Pitch Softball

OMNIPLEX-They were lettin ‘em fly this year on the Softball fields at the Claude Cox Omniplex. Several great softballers, men and women, were out showcasing their skills. Runs came at a premium with outstanding pitching at just about every game. It seems each year the competition gets tougher at the tournament and it was no different in 2006. With fast-pitch being such a popular sport theres no reason to think that will change in the coming years. The women’s championship went to Native Illusion’s with the runner-up A-NI-YU-WV. The men’s championship was nabbed by Next of Kin with runner-up being the Native American Comanches. Turning in MVP performances were Clint Baker, for the men, and Marge Johnson, for the women.



Parade

OKMULGEE- The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Parade weaved it’s way through downtown Okmulgee this year with a little bit of everything. Tribal officials, lighthorsemen, fire trucks, horses and even some Indian Cars made there way through a throng of Muscogee citizens who had turned out for the event. Bad weather constantly threatened with dark skies overhead but the clouds simply provided great shade on an otherwise hot day and not a drop of rain fell. The Parade left a lot of citizens entertained and a lot of children with pockets full of candy.







5K(3.2 miles) Run

CREEK NATION COMPLEX-The 5K Run which starts and ends on the grounds of the Tribal Capitol Complex, was full with a host of determined distance runners fixated on winning a race. Running is a sport that Native athletes have excelled in for many years and it continues to be a point of pride for the participants. Turning in a blistering time of 17:39 was Jamin Jones as he won the overall title in the Men's Division. Kristine Wyatt, with a time of 24:11, was the overall winner in the Women's Division. Congratulations to not only the winners of the race but to all contestants for very well-ran races. We will be looking to the future with hopes of increased participation in the Run, knowing that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is taking every possible step to promote healthy lifestyles.

Horseshoe

OMNIPLEX- One of the most popular sports with Native American people is horseshoes. In fact most tribal citizens would not be able to say they didn't know at least one person with a horseshoe pit in the yard. Let's face it, if a horseshoe tournament was not part of the Creek Festival, there would be trouble. One of the most exciting events to watch, simply for the fact that there are some really good pitchers, the horseshoe tournament was again a highlight.



Adult Basketball

One of the more exciting and competitive events took place on the basketball courts just north of the Omniplex stage. The Adult Basketball tournament seems to be growing in popularity each year and the amount of teams in this year's event speaks to that trend. Everything was offered from hustle, to great passes, fantastic shots and great sportsmanship. The tournament had it all and provided non-stop action for the onlookers.



Junior Rodeo

OMNIPLEX- On the rodeo grounds at the Omniplex on June 10 and 11 spectators were treated to what might be the future of rodeo. These youngsters were up to the challenge and provided a glimpse of the talents that are people have, irregardless of their age or physical stature. There were competitions for all ages and divisions including poles, flags, barrels, tie-down roping and calf roping.

Living Legends



OMNIPLEX- One of the more meaningful things each year for the Creek Nation is the Living Legends Ceremony. Created by Chief Ellis at last year's festival, this ceremony is a tremendous way of the tribe showing their appreciation and admiration for Creek citizens who have lived a full life and represented their tribe with dignity. The event was emceed this year by National Council Speaker George Tiger and Native American actress/entertainer Irene Bedard. Among those honored at this year's event were decorated combat veteran and Batan Death March survivor Phillip Coon and his dear wife Helen Coon. Also honored was Bob Arrington, who has given many years of service to the Creek Nation through coordination of the Festival Rodeo and through work with Creek Nation Roadways.

2006 Scholarship Pageant

This year's pageant was held at Henryetta High School Auditorium on June 9-10. This year's pageant was even more competitive than last year's. "Tears were shed and scholarships were awarded", said Jason Salsman. There were lots of great performances by the ladies and the winners really had to work this year to earn their scholarships. This year's Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation was Melanie Frye. Junior Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation was Samantha Jackson. Division 3 Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation was Ashleigh Johnson, Division 2 was Angel Johnson, Division 1 was SaRae Butler. Congratulations to all the winners and participants. It was a showcase of the beauty and elegance of the Muscogee women and their value to our way of life.



Miss Muscogee Nation 2006  
Melanie Amber Frye

Daughter of Johnny and Marion Bunny Frye. Melanie is of the Fvswvlke Clan and belongs to the Yofalv Kvneta Tribal Town. Her hobbies include singing and learning Creek hymns, learning the Creek language and participating in American Indian activities and groups at the University of Oklahoma. Melanie is looking forward to serving her Tribe as a positive role model.



Youth Olympics

OKMULGEE TRACK&FIELD- Harmon Stadium at Okmulgee High School is usually the "Home of the Bulldogs" but on this day it belonged to Muscogee youth. Several kids turned out to compete in various athletic competitions and show their stuff in a quest for the blue ribbon. Although there was only one winner from each competition, every child participating gave maximum effort in competing.



Youth Basketball

YMCA Center- Native American youth are starting to make their presence known in the basketball world more with each year. Talent is manifested at various high school gymnasiums and summer tournaments around the state year-round. That talent found it's way to the Okmulgee YMCA Basketball courts on June 16 as the youngsters showed their abilities and had a little fun at the same time.







Pow-Wow

COVELLE HALL AT OSU-OKMULGEE- Not only does the Muscogee(Creek) Nation have their own stompdance, but the festival hosted a pow-wow. It was a beautiful celebration showing the diversity of other tribes. Most Pow-Wow's represent a time of gathering and friendship with other cultures. Even though the Muscogee(Creek) Nation generally stompdance rather than participate in pow-wows, everyone was still very honored to host a pow-wow and to accept their gathering and friendship.



OMNIPLEX- The stompdance was a spectacular event starting around 6 and lasting around midnight. Everyone young and old participated in the stompdance singing along. If it were in the old ways people in the dance would have gone until they past out from exhaustion. Luckily no one passed out but they did leave with a feeling of their ancestors in the circle. This is what is keeping the tradition alive in the Creek Festival.

Volleyball

OMNIPLEX- They were settin', spikin' and scoring at the Volleyball courts located at the Claude Cox Omniplex where the action was non-stop. The heat was beating down on the players but that did little to stunt the determination of the teams as it was a fight to the finish to see who would come out on top. The tournament not only provided great competition but fun and fellowship as well.



OMNIPLEX-Slow pitch softball was just as exciting as it has always been with outstanding performances and great team effort making for a fantastic tournament. Several balls left the yard, and their were many defensive plays made that were ESPN highlight-worthy. In the end the Florida Seminoles took first avenging a near championship from last year's event. Here's how they finished.

- 1st- Florida Seminoles
- 2nd- Shades of Red
- 3rd- 4 Love of the Game

- Co-ed
- 1st - Swoosh
- 2nd -RBI's
- 3rd - Florida Seminoles



Hymn/Gospel Singing

This years Muscogee Nation Traditional Hymn Singing at Covelle Hall on the campus of OSU Okmulgee. Many Muscogee Hymns were sang, and those in attendance had the opportunity to fellowship with one another through one of the oldest facets of culture of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. On a similar note those in attendance at the Gospel singing at the OSU Extension Building on the Fair grounds were treated just as equally to a fine helping of music.



Honoring Original Allottee, Martha Berryhill



Children learn traditional arts and crafts during art show.





Youth particpate in Rodeo events



Living Legend, Helen Coon



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Artists displayed work for art show



Pageant contestant Samantha Jackson



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Volleyball tournaments were very competitive.





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Festival Pow wow demonstration.



2005 Miss Muscogee(Creek) Nation sings song of appreciation to her mother during pageant events.



5 k Run



Youth compete in Junior Olympics race.



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